THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXXVIII.
NUMBER 39.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1891.

Per Annum in Advance
TOWN 11-8
MOFUSSIL 13-4

Summary of News.

Monday, 7th September.

THE Chief Commissioner of Burma has proposed that a railway line from Samon to Myingyan shall be begun as a relief work owing to the failure of the rains. The exact alignment has yet to be determined upon, as it is considered advisable to extend the railway to a point opposite to Pokoko.

THE Supreme Council of Hygiene of Austria has been engaged in discussing the advantages of erect as compared with slanting writing, and the official report of Drs. von Reuss and Lorenz points strongly in favour of the former. They point out that the direction of the written character has marked influence on the position of the body. In "straight" writing the scholar faces his work, and is spared the twist of the body and neck, which is always observable in those who write slantwise, and one common cause of spinal curvature is thus obviated. The erect method is, therefore, expressly recommended for use in schools, in preference to the ordinary sloping lines.

THE London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* writes:—'Before Lord Cross got on the direct road to the House of Peers, or even to Parliament, he was one of the much trusted officials of a banking house at Warrington, Lancashire. A highly respected banking house it was and is still, and it was thought that Mr. Cross would end his days there, shovelling coin over the counter to farmers and other customers of the bank. But this was not to be. He studied law and eventually became a Magistrate, and a county justice he would probably have remained but for a great piece of luck. He was put up to contest the seat for South West Lancashire against Mr. Gladstone and won. The Derby influence put him into the Cabinet of the next Conservative Ministry, and when Lords Beaconsfield and Salisbury were at Berlin together, Mr. Cross was virtually in charge of the Queen's dominions. He is now a Peer and Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and I am told has quite given up attending the meetings of the old bank at Warrington. What has led me to outline his career is a rumour that he will visit India if the Ministry are defeated at the next election.'

THE *True Light* of Lahore quotes the following interesting piece of information from *Iron*:—"In Sonoma county, California, may be seen a peculiar piece of engineering—namely, an actual railway-bed on tree tops. Between the Clipper Mills and Stuart Point, where the road crosses a deep ravine, the trees are sawn off on a level with the surrounding hills, and the timbers and ties laid on the stumps. In the centre of the ravine two huge red wood trees, side by side, form a substantial support. These giants have been lopped off 75 feet above the bed of the creek. This natural tree bridge is considered one of the wonders of the Golden State and for safety and security is stated to far exceed a bridge built on the most scientific principles."

THE German Emperor evidently supposes (says the *World*) that his recent invasion of his grand-mother's Court is one of the most important events which have occurred in the history of England since the Norman Conquest. 'I hear that his Majesty expressed considerable surprise that the Queen did not command Lord Tennyson to compose an ode of welcome to him especially as he is the first German Emperor who has visited England.'

BUTTONS are now made from a great variety of substances, and even the potato tuber has been recently utilised for the manufacture of those articles. Potato buttons are not uncommon in some parts of Germany, and very nearly resemble those which have been fashioned from horn or ivory, but are, of course, much cheaper. In the process of manufacture the potato is first treated with certain acids, and is then compressed until it gets as hard as stone.

THE Bombay Corporation has resolved to build new and improved Fire-Brigade stations at various points in the town, and to apply for permission to raise a loan of Rs. 4,50,000 at 4½ percent for the purpose.

Tuesday, 8th September

OWING to the prolonged wet weather, harvest and fruit prospects in England are becoming seriously jeopardised. The absence of sunshine, and continuous rains, are turning the standing corn black, while much hay has been destroyed. Evidently the yield of British crops will be much lower than usual, and of inferior quality. The state of affairs in India does not warrant the expectation of much exportation from this quarter, nor is it likely that the Continent will be able to spare much grain for the English market. Russia is threatened with a positive grain famine, and the authorities have issued an order which virtually amounts to the restriction of the export of grain and positively prohibits the export of rye. In Vienna there has been almost a panic, and in Berlin rye has risen to a higher price than wheat. In the course of a single day the figure went up by seven or eight marks. Wheat is hardening in price all over Europe, and the market in England is distinctly dearer. Fortunately the New World promises to be able to redress the balance of the Old. Corn prospects in America have not been so brilliant for many years past. Into the granaries of Chicago are being poured seven times as much wheat, five times as much rye and twice as much barley as were stored there last year. Two hundred millions of bushels of wheat are available for export. The price of flour in England has already risen, and there is a general expectation of hardening all round for some time to come.

THE famous clepsydra, or water clock, at Canton, China, that has been keeping time for 560 years without loss or irregularity, is an affecting monument as viewed by a reverent or sentimental tourist. To the cold eye of reason it is only a clumsy arrangement of four stone jars set one above the other, and arranged from one pot to another. In the lowest and smallest jar a wooden float supports a brass rod that is lined and marked with Chinese characters, and as the brass rod rises through the cover of the jar the course of the hours is seen.

THE Emperor William has nearly recovered from the effects of his fall, but he is in a great state of indignation because some French papers have circulated a story that his accident occurred in a fit of madness. The *Eclair* gave a long detailed account of his Majesty's eccentricities on board the *Hohenzollern*: how he equipped himself with a surplice and mitre, and croiser in hand delivered a sermon, which lasted three hours in the middle of the night; how he dismissed the Captain and wanted to take charge of the ship himself; how because the second officer in command refused to leave the bridge, he struck him and attempted to throw him overboard; in the struggle which ensued he fell and injured his knee. The officers then carried the Emperor into his cabin and confined him there till the fit passed away. This rigmarole was believed in Paris, and some English newspapers reproduced it as a joke. The Emperor is very angry that such insults are put upon him. The accident from which he suffered was a very simple affair. He slipped on the linoleum and knocked his kneecap against a projection and dislocated it. No bones were broken. He has since been able to walk about, and intends to take part in some early German and subsquently in the Austrian military manœuvres.

THE inventor of the new pneumatic gun, which is as superior to every other weapon as the 110-ton gun is to the old Brown Bess, is an Englishman named Boo·, who has obtained a universal patent. The projectile may be fired from any air-tight chamber, the gun itself being of the smallest importance as all the work is done by the shell itself. The shell is charged with air at enormous pressure, having its dynamite charge in its head. This increases the efficiency of the power that is behind the shell, arising from the pressure being sudden rather than continued, after the Zalinski model. By a clever contrivance the valve of the shell is opened, and it speeds on its way without recoil enough to crack the shells of eggs placed near the wheels of the carriage, or shake ashes from a cigar placed delicately to test the point. The advantage of this new gun over those of the Zalinski type is that it can be used as a field piece, the shells being charged at any convenient point. There is no perceptible noise of explosion, no recoil, and of necessity greater lightness of carriage.

Wednesday, 9th September.

THE last annual Rede lecture was delivered in the Senate House at Cambridge by Sir Alfred Lyall. His subject was Natural Religion in India. In the course of his lecture Sir Alfred said:—'I take India to be one of the religious watersheds of the world. From India there had been a large outflow of religious ideas over Asia.'

SIR EDWARD WATKIN writes to the *Times*, urging that the important breaks in the railways in India, should be filled up, especially in view of any scarcity rendering easy transit of vital moment. Sir Edward says:—

I believe, I am correct in stating that four important breaks exist, that the narrow-gauge system alluded to can be coupled up at a cost of £200,000, and that this small expenditure is, to my somewhat practical experience, very likely to be repaid in money in the first year of operation, and is certain in times of famine, war, and other pressure to add vastly to the transit capacity of the railways of India. The work could be completed in three months. Then, why, with scarcity looming on the horizon, is not the work, done out of hand? Gen. Trevor and Mr. T. W. Wood, of the Bombay and Baroda Railway, have been hammering at the door of the India Office for half a year, and, so far in vain.

A HYDERABAD correspondent reports that a resolution has been issued by the Nizam's Government in the Home Department on the Postal Administration of the State for the year 1207 *Fasli*. The total number of post offices amounted to 161, besides 171 letter boxes. The postal lines traverse nearly four thousand miles of road, including 426 miles of railway. Nearly three millions of letters, post cards, parcels, &c., were received and delivered during the year. The revenue amounted to a little over a lakh, while the expenditure of the department was about two and a-half lakhs, or more than double. This, however, does not include the carriage of service letters, the cost of which alone is estimated at upwards of four lakhs. The postal service is still very much behind the other departments of the State, and there is great room for improvement. The Nawab Mahdi Hassan has, however, taken the matter in hand, and he is endeavouring to introduce salutary reforms, which will be productive of great benefit to the public.

AS an exhibition of Japanese sensibility, the threatened resignation of certain Judges who considered themselves personally affected by the attack on the Czarewitch has been eclipsed by the patriotic conduct of a lady resident of Kioto. The departure of the Czarewitch without visiting the capital appears to have so deeply injured her self-respect as a Japanese citizen that she voluntarily adopted the happy despatch as the only means of retrieving the national disgrace. Her self-immolation was warmly appreciated by other and more cautious patriots. A religious service was held at Kioto, and a large number of persons attended the funeral, while innumerable flowers and other offerings were dedicated to the soul of the "heroine-suicide," to use the phraseology of the local Japanese press. The 'heroine' was evidently tired of her life.

AN exhibit worthy of notice at Puna Soldiers' Institute is an electric punka invented by Lieutenant-Colonel James. The punka consists of three fans revolving within a kind of box, on the top of which is a lid which acts as a deflector and can be so placed as to throw a breeze at any desired angle. The fan is worked by an electric motor at a speed of about 190 revolutions a minute, and the motor is fed by two four-cell Danniel's battteries. It is perfectly silent and the breeze that is poured upon a person is continuous and delightfully cool. The beauty of the invention is that the punka case is only 18 inches wide and is so constructed that it can with ease be removed to any part of a room or house without the slightest trouble. It will hang within a mosquito curtain, can be placed on a writing desk suspended over a chair, and in fact it can be moved as readily as a person can change his seat, or position. Besides being a punka it takes the character of Goldsmiths' chest-of-drawers. There is attached to it an electric bell, with a long silken cord by which one can rouse a whole neighbourhood simply by moving a finger; there is a clock also attached to it to warn you of the hour, a thermometer to indicate the temperature, and a small electric light sufficient to illuminate a room. The light is set glaring simply by turning a switch. Altogether it is a most wonderful combination, and Colonel James deserves the highest praise for his ingenuity and skill.

Thursday, 10th September.

GERMANY, disciplined as it is in the matter of tax-paying, is more impatient of the particular impost on incomes than India. In his recent speech from the throne, the King of Prussia thanked the Landtag for accepting so many of the new Ministry's measures, and especially for laying "necessary and excellent foundations for the improvement of the tax system," which is to achieve "a just redistribution of the public burdens according to the ability to bear them." Nevertheless, of the three parts in which Dr. Miquel's tax-reform scheme was laid before the Deputies, they rejected the inheritance tax outright; they largely modified the income tax, and allowed only the tax on trades and industries to go through approximately in the form in which it was presented by Government. The first assessment of the law under the new income tax will take place in 1892.

THE mode of assessment is as follows:—The communal Magistrate makes a list of all taxable persons in the commune, and estimates, from such data as he can obtain, the income of each. This list is revised and corrected by a board of provisional assessment, consisting of the Magistrate as Chairman and a number of assessors, the majority of whom are elected by the town. The lists, thus corrected, go to a board of county assessors, also composed of a majority of elected and a minority of appointed members. In addition to the corrected assessment roll furnished by the communal assessors, the county board has another source of information, viz., the direct declaration of the taxpayer himself. Each taxpayer who has an income of 3,000 marks or more, must fill out an official blank, giving the amount of his income from each of four sources: capital, real estate, and rent (including the rental value of his residence if he owns it), trade and industry, earnings from professional or other occupation, so far as they are not already included in the first three classes. He must also specify the amount of his income from property or industry situated outside the *Kreis*, and the amount of the debts or the other burdens on account of which deductions from the assessment are expected.

SOME sensation has been caused in Europe by the attitude of Russia towards Turkey over the *Moscova* incident. M. Nelidoff insists on substantial compensation for the detention of the vessel when attempting to pass the Dardanelles, which the Sultan, to avoid unpleasantness, will probably pay out of his own pocket. The Vienna papers point out that the object of Russia is evidently to secure for herself the right of passing through the Dardanelles without challenge, or to attain that end by giving Turkish officials such a thorough scare that whenever they see vessels flying the Russian flag they will be afraid to examine and detain them, lest they be snubbed by their superiors for simply doing their duty. In this way Russia wishes to obtain special privileges for herself in the matter of the passage of the Dardanelles which are given to no other Power, or if given to any other Power Russia would equally share the advantage. Thus the conventions which followed the Crimean war will be annihilated. The attempts to accomplish this end have been so frequent during the past year or two that it is not improbable that the Powers will combine in a joint protest to stengthen Turkey's backbone for resistance.

JOB MARTIN is a European by birth and a filter by profession. He is employed on the Madras Railway. It so happened some time ago that Martin's water-woman gave him some offence, as any servant might give any day to any master. The result was, Job got angry, and in his anger he kicked the water-woman; and the force of the kick and the thickness of the boots proved fatal to her. She died, poor woman, and Martin was put on his trial. The case was heard, and the Judge gave his decision. He fined the prisoner Rupees fifty! No doubt his lordship thought a fine of Rupees fifty enough to meet the ends of justice; but the question, is it so, will be asked by many captious critics.

THE *Singapore Free Press* says:—In this colony we enjoy the privilege of sending newspapers published here free through the Post Office. By an order in Council published in a *Gazette* the privilege is further extended by removing the limit of weight. A newspaper only passed as such if it was under four ounces, the postage being two cents to outside the colony and free within. If the paper exceeded four ounces, book-rate to be paid, so that a five-ounce paper cost six cents to post, and of course had to be charged for in the colony as a book. By the recent order this latter limit is removed, so that a *bona fide* newspaper of any weight published in the Colony and sent from a newspaper office is privileged to pass free of postage in the Colony, the Protected States, and Johore. The privilege is confined to newspapers sent by newspaper offices, and does not extend to those posted by the public generally.

Friday, 11th September.

THAT the Indian system of Police requires a thorough overhauling is a fact which admits of no doubt. Bulwant's case is still under enquiry. Here again is another case reported by the *Tribune* of Lahore:—"In the course of an enquiry in a case of theft, the Police, it is said, at a place not far from Lahore, horribly tortured two servants of the gentleman who was robbed. One has, it is said, died and the other is at death's door. On getting full and authentic particulars of the alleged torture we may publish the details." It is impossible to say anything of the offence, till we know the details.

THE *Morning Post* writes:—Mr. P. U. Allen, the Assistant Magistrate of Allahabad, has committed one Fariduddin, Sub-Inspector of Police, and one Raja Ram, a Moharrir of the Manda Thana, to stand their trial at the District Sessions, for framing an incorrect record with intent to save a person from legal punishment, and with giving false information with respect to an offence. In his commital order the Magistrate remarks that the evidence shows a clear *prima facie* case against both the accused. Great interest is being evinced in the coming trial."

DESTRUCTIVE floods are reported from the Bareilly district consequent on the heavy rain. Whole villages have been inundated, and the water round one is so deep that the inhabitants are compelled to keep up communication with the outer world by means of rudely constructed rafts, passage to and from by land being quite impossible.

THE St. Petersburg correspondent of a Berlin paper professes to give the exact text of the Franco-Russian treaty of alliance. According to him there are three principal points in the treaty, and they are the following: *1st* should France declare war against Germany without any serious reason for doing so, Russia will remain neutral; *2nd* should France be compelled to commence hostilities against Germany after provocation on the part of the latter, Russia will adopt a neutral but friendly attitude and will in fact increase her forces on the German frontier; *3rd* should France be attacked by Germany Russia will side with France and *vice versa*. France in any case will take Russia's part against the Triple Alliance.

A HEAVY landslip has taken place some six miles from Kalka. Passengers have to cross on foot for nearly half a mile.

THE *Observer* states that the Duke of Rutland is appointed temporarily as Postmaster General of England.

THE Khojak Tunnel was formally opened on Saturday, and the first train went through from India to the plains of Chaman on the very fringe of Afghan territory.

THE 'Imperial,' which is at present the subject of litigation, is by repute a gem of the first water. It was once the property of the ex-Emperor of Brazil, and an attempt was made to present it to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress on the occasion of her Jubilee. The stone is elongated in shape, and perfectly pure and white, and weighs 180 carats. The Koh-i-Nur weighs 106, the Pitt 136, the legendary Great Mogal 279, the Nizam 340, and the Matan 367 carats.

THE native Andamanese women have a curious custom. When any of them is left a widow the bereaved wife is accustomed to procure the skull of her late husband and carry it about with her suspended at her side. She uses it as a sort of treasure-box, placing in it her money, jewels, or any other valuable article she may have. It is a law of good society in China that young widows should never marry again. Widowhood is therefore held in the highest esteem, and the older the widow grows the more agreeable does her position become with the people. Should she reach fifty years, she may by applying to the Emperor, get a sum of money with which, to buy a tablet, on which is engraved the sum of her virtues. The tablet is placed over the door of the principal entrance to her house.

A MISSION to Cabul seems to be now seriously in contemplation. The *Englishman* says:—'A mistaken idea seems to prevail in certain quarters that the Amir acted discourteously in putting off the former proposed Mission to Cabul. Nothing, in reality, could be wide of the mark. Had the mission been sent promptly at the time it was projected, it would have been received with the utmost favour. But when a widespread revolt had broken out in Afghan Turkestan, there could no longer be any question of the advisability of postponing the Mission. To construe the postponement into an affront, especially at the present moment, is sheer nonsense. If the matters under discussion between the Government of India and the Amir can be advanced by a personal conference, a Mission may be sent with a perfect regard for the dignity of the Government, and the best hope of arriving at a satisfactory understanding.'

Saturday, 12th September.

A MADRAS paper having accused the Bengali press of systematically adopting a violent tone, from "commercial considerations," the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* replies with the following anecdote:—'About the tone of the vernacular papers, we will say nothing just now for obvious reasons. But it is totally wrong to say that the tone of the Bengali papers written in English is violent. Of course, it is open to improvement; but there is no doubt that the tone is infinite times better now than it was before. To declare that the tone of the leading Bengali papers is violent, is to assume that the Bengalis are stupid, which, on all accounts, they are not. There is a story of a Brahmin's calf and the calf of a *goala* (milk-man.) The Brahmin's calf was strong and healthy, and that of the *goala*, of course, weak, as he starved it for the sake of its mother's milk which he sold for his living. The Bramhin's calf addressed the *goala's* calf thus: "Brother, let us run and see who runs faster." Upon this the *goala's* starved calf, whom the idea of a run gave a terrible fright, declared, "Brother! running is an undignified pastime. Let us both lie down and see who can wag his tail better!" The fact is, if the majority of the papers of the other presidencies had taken as much interest in public affairs as the Bengali papers do, the administration would have been much improved by this time. They should learn to run, and not to induce the Bengali papers to lie down and wag their tails. Of course violent language is always bad, but then earnestness should not be mistaken for violence.' That the tone of some of the Bengali papers is violent cannot be denied, and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is wrong in trying to justify this violent tone. Violent language cannot be too severely condemned. What the *Patrika* should have said is that earnestness should not be mistaken for violence; when we feel strongly, we speak strongly. The language of conviction is always earnest, but then a writer always knows where to draw the line between earnestness and violence.

TELL-TALE clocks have long been in use, chiefly to keep night-watchmen awake and attentive to their rounds. It appears that there is an extension of the system to promote punctuality in offices. Messrs. Oakes & Co., of Madras, are said to have procured from England, at a cost of rupees two thousand, a tell-tale contrivance which, on being regulated, keeps open up to a specified time to admit of tickets, which the clerks will be served with being dropped into a receptacle, and this receptacle will close of itself at the time fixed; thus apprising the employers of the late attendance of clerks, as they will not be able to deposit their tickets in the receptacle if behind time.

THE Secretary of State has made a series of new rules dealing with the pensions of Judges hereafter appointed to the different High Courts in India. Hitherto Puisne Judges have been entitled to a pension of £1,200 per annum after eleven and-a-half years on the bench, furlough being excluded. In future, he term of service necessary to obtain the pension will be fourteen and-a-half years. The rules are distinctly less favourable than the existing ones. The practical effect will be to retard promotion in the judicial line by three years in the case of those Judges who are promoted from the Civil Service. The salaries and pensions are still sufficiently tempting to ensure abundance of candidates now, as in the past, from the Bar in England.

THE theory that dipsomania is a form of lunacy like any other mania is slowly but surely gaining acceptance. The Commissioners of the Lancashire Lunatic Asylums have some significant remarks on the subject. A'though drunkards are not generally regarded as insane, they say in their latest report it is a question whether the habitual tippler might not with advantage be considered an irresponsible being, and treated as such. In support of their view they point to the fact that the children of insane persons frequently become dipsomaniacs, while in not a few cases the only cause that can be detected for a patient's insanity is the intemperance of one or both parents.

AN ingenious suggestion has been made to the Brussels authorities in regard to the electric lighting of their principal streets, and particularly of the Grande Place. It has hitherto been objected to the plans for electrical illumination of this square that the poles on which the electric lights were hung, and all proposed improvements in the lamps were out of harmony with the surrounding architecture, and were apt to be an eyesore in the day time. It is now proposed that the lights shall be shed upon the square from tall steel standards, which will be sunk in deep sheaths underground in the day time, and will be elevated by hydraulic pressure at dusk when they are wanted.

THE Jail outbreak at Agra was planned by life prisoners the day before it occurred The matter is now under investigation.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, BOW-BAZAR STREET.)

(SESSION 1891-92.)

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Monday*, the 14*th Inst.*, at 5 P. M.
Subject: Alloys, Bases and Acids.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday* the 15*th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: The Actions of Electric Currents upon one another. Electro-Dynamics.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Wednesday*, the 16*th Inst.*, at 5 P. M,
Subject: Potassium and its Compounds.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chundra Datta, F. C. S., on *Thursday* the 17*th Inst.*, at 4½ P. M.

LECTURE by the Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on *Thursday*, the 17*th Inst.*, at 7½ P. M.
Subject: Boyle's Law. Manometers. Balloons.

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Friday*, the 18*th Inst.*, at 2½ P. M.
Subject: Action of the Magnet upon Electric Currents. Electro-Magnetism.

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A., on *Saturday*, the 19*th Inst.*, at 2½ P. M.
Subject: Integral Caiculus. Rectification of Curves.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C, S., on *Saturday*, the 19*th Inst.*, at 4 P. M.
Subject: Sodium and its Salts.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday* the 19*th Inst.*, at 5 P. M.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,
September 12th, 1891. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1891.

THE "MIRROR" DARKENED.

IN one of its epidemic moods of "manliness and independence," the *Indian Mirror* advocates the formation, in Calcutta, of an Association on the model of the Puna Sarvajanik Sabha, the Bombay Presidency Association and the Madras Mahajan Sabha. Our contemporary is "in despair" at the prospect of losing his "birth rights," and can think of no other means of "getting rid of our grievances and helping us to receive all just concessions at the hands of the English people," than of establishing a *new* Association. He has indeed tried his hand at leadership before this though not with any very marked success, and if he has been denied the sweets, by no means unmingled with troubles, of leadership again, well may he be in despair. But this time the Association is to be under better auspices, for it is to be under the leadership of men "of tried independence and worth, men for instance like Mr. Monomohun Ghose." It should have nothing to do with *effete* and defunct bodies like the British Indian Association and the Indian Association that are in a 'comatose' condition. The Secretary of the latter, it is said, is now-a-days nothing more than 'a shadow' of the Secretary of the former. The Secretary of the British Indian Association may, and should, feel flattered by the compliment, but Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea might resent it and not without justice, though he good-naturedly does not. Perhaps the *Mirror* would relish his being somebody else's shadow better, if it could be managed.

The charge is that most public movements are now-a-days initiated and carried on in the rooms of the British Indian Association, though the Indian Association has a local habitation of its own. This is of a piece with the unusual consistency of the *Mirror*, considering that the British Indian Association specially is in a "comatose condition." But let that pass.

The *Mirror* divides all public movements into two classes—"great and small," "large and little." Will the *Mirror* be good enough to enlighten the ignorant and sleepy people of the British Indian Association as to the particular movements, large or small, which have not found their hearty and warm support if it was deserved? The *Mirror* and his familiars may view things and movements in a light that may not commend itself to the obtuse vision of the Bitish Indian leaders, and they cannot in justice be charged of sleeping at their posts. As for the Indian Association the *Mirror* ought to know better, for if it has failed in its duty, our captious brother is as much to blame as any body in the world. We believe Mr. Monomohun Ghose is a Vice-President of the latter, as is the Editor of the *Indian Mirror* who has been on its Committee all along though. If, however, our information be correct, both the gentlemen are rather chary of their support of, and appearance in, the meetings of the Association, except perhaps under special circumstances. To our knowledge no meetings of the Indian Association have ever been held in the British Indian Association rooms, which would be the only thing that could be rationally objected to. The Provincial Conference may have its meetings in the Indian Association rooms if the *Mirror* and his confederates wish it. But if some other meetings are held in the British Indian Association rooms—in most of which the Editor of the *Mirror* has taken a part without any perceptible grumblings,—surely there must be occult reasons which none but the initiated are permitted to see.

The *Bengalee*, which is supposed to know something of the working of the Indian Association and of other public bodies and movements, does not seem to appreciate the manly and independent tone of the *Mirror* in this particular matter. The *Bengalee* observes:

> If the British Indian Association is leading a dead, comatose sort of existence, a mere name, how can the Indian Association be the reflex of this shadowy nothing? There has indeed been co-operation between the two Associations, as indeed there ought to be, in work connected with the National Congress and the Provincial Conference, and it is to be thankfully noted that in many cases where the initiative came from the members of the Indian Association, the members of the British Indian Association have not hesitated to co-operate with them. But the Indian Association has done and is doing much independent work, beyond what is covered by the National Congress or the Provincial Conference. The *Mirror* has only to go through the report of last year's work and to acquaint himself with what is being done this year, to be convinced of the truth of our remark. At the present moment some of its members are earnestly engaged in organizing the Provincial Conference with the sympathy of the British Indian Association. Let us not quarrel about the men, but rather let us look to their work. Objection is taken to the fact that meetings are held in the rooms of the British Indian Association. Even if that were so, it would be a piece of courtesy due to the older Association, to which nobody ought to take any exception. But as a matter of fact the Editor of the *Indian Mirror* must know, as well as we do, that the meetings of the Standing Committee of the National Congress have been held in the rooms of the British Indian Association ever since 1886, and that the public meetings of the Provincial Conference have always been held in the same rooms; and the Editor of the *Indian Mirror* has been frequently present at these meetings and he never complained. *Why does he complain now?* (The italics are ours.) If the Indian Association is drifting into lines which the *Indian Mirror* considers to be undesirable, may we enquire how it is that the Editor, being one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, has never thought it necessary to stir in the matter to set the Association right, that he has never complained, never protested until now? Surely it is very unkind treatment of the Association, on the part of one of its Vice-Presidents, to attack it publicly, without the smallest effort having been made by him to reform it from within. The *Mirror* suggests the starting of a new Association. We have no objection to it. It is much more easy to start new Associations than to work them. We at least know of three Associations which in this city were started under the highest auspices, but which have disappeared from view altogether. If the Indian Association has failed in its duty—we ask what was the Vice-President of the Association doing? Did he also fail in his duty to the Association? The public and the Vice-President know perfectly well that the Association has rendered, and is still rendering, valuable service to the country.

We would commend the following remarks to those who may be particularly curious to know the style of 'independence and manliness' which the *Mirror* advocates:—"The present unfortunately is a period in the history of this country, which bodes little good to its people. Officialdom has thrown off the mask of benevolent despotism, and is showing itself in its true colours of absolute tyranny. Everywhere there is an attempt to stifle the voice of the people, and they are expected to take things, as they find them, without a murmur or a protest." In plain words the meaning is this: We have fallen on evil times. The officials are all absolute tyrants. They want to gag your mouths, and make you their slaves. Show your independence by abusing them, and resisting their authority.

If independence and manliness should consist only in vilifying officials and in creating race-antagonism, the British Indian Association never had, and will have, aught to do with it. Its humble endeavour has always been to keep the people in touch with Government, to interpret between the ruler and the ruled, and to smooth down difficulties. This alone has earned it the tribute which the *Mirror* pays it unwittingly, namely, that it was the "bulwark of the liberties of the people of Bengal." To deserve the continuance of this tribute, there must be a continuity of policy, which the Association does not consider it proper to desert in spite of the vapourings of the *Mirror*. Our contemporary considers 'that its leaders now are sleeping in retirement, honoured and titled it may be, but sleeping over their honours and titles. The British Indian Association at one time rendered the highest services to the country, and it is very sad to see it in its present comatose condition.' For aught the *Mirror* knows the lion is not sleeping. Beware then of its paw.

One word more as to what has been said with regard to certain meetings which have been recently held in the rooms of the British Indian Associaton. The Committee of the British Indian Association under the Trust Deed of the Association may allow meetings to be held in its rooms, the purposes of which are not objectionable; and surely by being accommodating in this way the Association has not ceased to serve the public any more than the Indian Association has ceased to be useful by its Secretary, with the knowledge and consent of its Committee, acting in concert with other public bodies where such concert is possible and desirable. The best of objects may be thwarted by captious criticisms, and the *Indian Mirror*, which would serve "no other but the public cause," should have been the last to indulge in them. Perhaps it will be gall and wormwood to him that this afternoon a preliminary meeting will be held in the British Indian Association rooms to organise an Industrial Conference and perhaps the movement will be condemned by reason of such lowly association. And this will perhaps afford an additional reason for formation forthwith of the projected model Association. Let it be formed by all means, if there be room for it, *and* if it can be properly worked. But as an eminent public speaker said on the occasion of the formation of a now obsolete Association, one of the very three of which the *Bengalee* speaks, there is no reason why one should not float without sinking another. The British Indian Association and the Indian Association are content to do their duty in their own humble way and they leave supernatural *mahatmas* to achieve impossibilities in their own supernatural way.

We would give one friendly advice to the *Mirror*. Let it perform its legitimate function. Let it reflect public opinion, and not endeavour to mislead it. Let it at all events bear in mind that he who "darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge" is set down as a mischief-maker, and mischief-makers are justly contemned.

THE INCOME-TAX.

THE Resolution on the administration of the income-tax in Bengal for the year 1890-91 has been published. The number of persons finally assessed, including Government servants who pay tax through the Accountant General, was 110,779 against 110,039 in 1889-90. The number of assessees, including Government servants, who paid tax within the year was 104,886 against 104,106 in 1889-90. The final demand of tax for the year, including Government servants and interest on securites, was Rs. 42,05,791 against Rs. 41,71,205 in 1889-90. The total collection in 1890-91 was Rs. 39,55,807 against

Rs. 38,95,812 in the previous year. Including advance and excess payments, and allowing for various adjustments, the actual receipts at the end of the past financial year amounted to Rs. 42,38,075 against Rs. 41,66,798 in 1889-90. The total expenditure incurred in the administration of the tax rose from Rs. 1,66,778 in 1889-90 to Rs. 1,83,712 in the year under review. Thus the net income from the tax was Rs. 40,54,363 against Rs. 40,00,020 in the previous year, or there has been an increase of 1·3 per cent during the last year.

The Resolution draws attention to three important changes which have been effected in reorganising the staff of the Income-tax officers. The first is the separation of the offices of Excise Inspector or Sub-Inspector and Assessor of Income-tax, which was settled upon in 1889 and was fully carried out in 1890. The second is a graduated scale of pay for these Assessors in accordance with a graduated division of the Districts with reference to their average revenue from the tax. There have thus been five classes of Districts and corresponding five grades of Assessors. The third is the fact that service in the Income-tax department, which was formerly treated as temporary, has now been declared to be permanent and pensionable. It is expected by the Government that these changes will tend to improve the working of the Income-tax administration, and to make the assessment registers a trustworthy record of the taxable income in each district.

At the close of the last financial year, the outstanding balance on account of the tax, including penalties and costs, amounted to Rs. 3,29,100 as compared with Rs. 3,45,219 in 1889-90. Of this balance Rs. 143,389 are reported to be good and in process of realisation, Rs. 1,19,295 doubtful, and Rs. 66,416 bad and irrecoverable. Eight districts succeeded in collecting their entire demand within the financial year. In ten districts the collections were below 90 per cent. of the final demand. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has intimated that in future years assessors, collecting less than 95 per cent. of the final demand, would be held liable to censure, unless they can show some special excuse. He has also desired that in case reassessment cannot take effect within the current year, collection should be based on the assessment of the previous year.

The forty-four assessors employed in the Mofussil visited 70,318 villages against 67,367 during the previous year. The Board of Revenue observe in their report that an attempt seems to have been made to cover too much ground, for it is found that in several districts the number of villages in which assessees were found is very small in comparison with the number of villages visited. The seven assessors employed in Calcutta visited 680 streets against 518 in the previous year. The number of persons, excluding Government servants, finally assessed was 102,988 against 102,265 in 1889-90, the percentage of exemption falling from 3·1 to 2·9.

In the whole of Bengal, 13,884 petitions of objection were filed as against 15,027 in the preceding year. Successful petitions numbered 5,321 against 6,361 in 1889-90, or 38·3 per cent. against 42·3 per cent. The percentage of successful objections exceeded 50 in five districts. In connection therewith, the Lieutenant Governor has not accepted without reserve the inference drawn by the Board that the initial assessment in these districts was carelessly made. His Honor would rather think it as likely that the judicial officers, who heard these petitions, accepted the pleas without sufficient scrutiny. His Honor further thinks it reasonable that, in future years, Deputy Collectors, before reversing or modifying the assessment made by the assessors, should invariably give the latter opportunity of explaining the ground of the assessments, which does not appear to have been done hitherto in many cases. The Resolution also notices the remarkable increase in Calcutta of cases, in which the mercantile classes have filed petitions of objections supported by closed and adjusted books, and remarks that the increase of such practice "tends of itself to arouse the suspicion that the mercantile classes are setting themselves to combat the income-tax with civilised weapons." But we are unable to share in the further suspicion thrown out, that "many of these accounts are specially prepared for the purpose of being filed in appeals against the assessment," in the absence of all proof to show how far these accounts have been actually fictitious.

Excluding the tax on interest of Government securities and the salaries of officials, the average incidence of income-tax for the whole of Bengal, including Calcutta, during the past year was Re. 1 to every 18·9 persons, as compared with Re. 1 to every 17·9 persons, in the preceding year. For Bengal, excluding Calcutta, the average incidence was Re. 1 to every 37 persons against Re. 1 to every 36 persons in 1889-90. Darjeeling shows the highest mofussil average, Re. 1 to every 4.7 persons; and Cuttack the lowest, Re. 1 to every 90.5 persons. In Calcutta the average incidence was Re. 1 to every .36 persons. These figures have been calculated in accordance with the provisional census returns of May last.

It is an interesting circumstance that in 1890-91 as in the previous year, Calcutta contributed nearly 50 per cent. of the amount collected as the income-tax of the year, excluding penalties, fines, arrears of previous years, the tax on the salaries of Government officials and on Government securities. Another point of some interest, which the resolution notices, is the progressive increase of the income tax revenue during the last five years that the tax has been in force.

Coercive measures for levying the tax had to be taken in 346 cases against 267 in 1889-90, though actual distress warrants had to be issued in fewer cases than in the preceding year. The increase in coercive measures in some districts is explained by the curious theory that the assessees, though well able to pay, were wilful enough to allow their property to be sold, in order to establish a claim to reduction or exemption in future years.

A division of the proceeds of the tax with reference to the various grades of income liable to assessment would show that the two extremes of income, the highest and the lowest, contribute the greatest portion of the total collected. The State draws 14·5 and 13·9 per cent. of the entire tax from the lowest and highest respectively of the grades of income liable to the tax. "Banking," which paid less than a lakh in 1889-90, has yielded Rs. 109,890 during the year under review, and "Jute and Hemp," which yielded more than a lakh in 1889-90 has considerably fallen off for 1890-91.

The Resolution then considers the comparative profits of different trades and professions. It says: "The statistics of professional incomes furnish interesting data for estimating the comparative prospects of different occupations, and serve, among other things, to cast doubts upon the popular impression that at least half a dozen barristers in Calcutta make more than a lakh a year by their practice." Other professions then come in for remark, such as the medical, the engineering, commercial, the newspaper writing and so on. These remarks will not, we are afraid, be palatable to the trades and professions whose profits are passed in review. The data upon which the remarks are based are very slender, and do not justify the conclusions arrived at.

Speaking of the unpopularity of the tax, His Honor observes that "nothing but financial necessity can justify the retention of a tax which can only be based on a series of more or less accurate guesses." "Financial necessity" is an expression which it is most difficult to deal with, and we would fain content ourselves with the remark that the forty lacs and odd which the tax brings in is but a poor compensation for the intense irritation and demoralisation which it engenders. Be that as it may, we cordially approve of the suggestion thrown out by his Honor, that it would be a great relief to the poorer classes of people if the assessable minimum could be fixed at Rs. 1000 instead of Rs. 500, as the best of a bad case.

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RAILWAY EXTENSION TO KANDAHAR.

IN our issue of the 8th June last we discussed the question of continuing the Chaman Extension Railway to Kandahar, which had been raised by a writer in the *Pioneer*. We showed conclusively that the Amir of Afghanistan would never give his consent to any part of his territories being connected with the railway system of India, and that, if the proposed line were constructed without his concurrence, serious complications would arise. We are now glad to find that the views we expressed upon this important subject have commended themselves to the approval of Parliament. On the 4th ultimo, Mr. J. M. Maclean, previous to the introduction of the Indian Budget, called the attention of the House of Commons to the desirability of extending the Indian railway system as far as Kandahar. The writer in the *Pioneer*, of whom mention has been made above, based his proposal on military considerations; but Mr. Maclean recommended the continuation of the Chaman Railway to Kandahar on commercial grounds. Mr. Maclean said:—"It would be greatly to the advantage of the working classes of this country, if some comprehensive steps could be taken for the extension of the Empire for the benefit of trade, and he had no doubt that if it were made clear to the Amir that much benefit would result to his country from a development of trade between Afghanistan and India, he would take steps to facilitate such an extension of trade between the two countries. The oasis of Merv was rapidly becoming as fertile as it was in old days, and we should soon see under the rule of Russia, countries, which were once the seats of vast empires, becoming once more worthy of their old reputation. He believed that if we were to approach the Amir, he would be glad to relax the differential duties by which he now tried to shut out English goods. From a recent paper by Mr. O'Connor, the able head of the Statistical Department in India, it appeared that there was slow revival of trade with Kabul, which was attributed by local authorities to the cessation of disturbances in the dominion of the Amir. Still the action taken by our subsidized ally, whose foreign policy was supposed to be under our control, was such as to give a preference in every way to Russian trade, and shut out English goods as much as possible. That being so, how could we rely upon him when the day of trial came? Unless we could establish different relations with him in respect of trade, it seemed only too probable that the time would come when he would turn round and be our enemy."

There can be no doubt that the relations now existing between India and Afghanistan are not satisfactory; but it is amusing to observe the naivity with which Mr. Maclean assures that these relations could be improved if the Government of India only took up the question in right earnest and approached the Amir in a proper spirit. This clearly shows that Mr. Maclean has not profited at all by the lessons of the past. The history of our two Afghan wars has proved to demonstration the great fact that no Amir of Afghanistan would accept the position of a protected Indian Prince. The fact is indeed as clear as the sun at mid-day, and the sooner the advocates of the "forward" frontier policy realised it, the better for the Indian tax-payer. The Amir is no doubt the subsidized ally of the British Government, and has placed his foreign policy under its control; but he will never allow his English friends obtain a footing in his country. It must not be forgotten that at the Rawal Pindi Conference, held in the spring of 1885, Abdur Rahman gave a broad hint to Lord Dufferin that he would rather lose some of his territories than allow the English enter his dominions as his allies. This alone is quite sufficient to show the profound feeling of suspicion and mistrust which the Afghans entertain towards the English. Mr. Maclean and those who think with him should clearly understand that it is quite impossible to establish different relations with the Amir; and they may rest assured that Abdur Rahman would never listen favourably to any proposal for the extension of our railway system to any part of his kingdom. Mr. Maclean laid much stress on

the money-getting propensities of the Afghans and suggested that if a liberal subsidy were granted, the Amir would not object to the establishment of Railway communication between his dominions and India. But even if the whole of the Indian revenues were given to him, he would not listen favourably to any proposal of this kind. Do what they may, the English will not be able to remove from the mind of the Afghan his fear of their designs, and to convince him that they have no intention of conquering and annexing his country.

Most of the speakers who followed Mr. Maclean disagreed with him as to the feasibility of his proposal. Even Sir Richard Temple declared that he was not prepared to support Mr. Maclean's views. Sir Richard observed:—"The Hon'ble Member for Oldham proposed that from the end of that tunnel (the tunnel through the Khojak Range which has just been completed) the railway should be extended to Kandahar, a distance of some 80 or 90 miles, not so much for military or political reasons as for financial objects and industrial purposes. That was, of course, a matter of great consequence; he quite admitted that if his hon'ble friend succeeded in getting the Afghans to take it up themselves he would have effected a great revolution in the manners and customs of that mountainous people. He hardly ventured to hope to live to see the day when that would happen, but public discussion in that House and elsewhere might, no doubt, tend towards the accomplishment of that desirable object. He did not deny the importance of the trade; though, of course, it must at the best appear magnificent when compared with the commerce of India." The hon'ble Mr. George Curzon, who has for years made the Central Asian question his special study, and who is generally regarded as a great authority on it, remarked:—"The extension of the railway to Kandahar would be regarded with jealousy by the Amir, and would certainly be immediately followed by a corresponding movement on the part of Russia. A branch line from the Trans-Caspian Railway was now being constructed in the direction of Herat; and two years ago this line was not begun. Railways through Afghanistan could not be made without the consent of the Amir, who did not regard them with favour; and the present moment was not the time to make proposals to him." Sir George Campbell made some very sensible and pertinent observations upon Mr. Maclean's motion. Sir George said:—"He [Mr. Maclean] asserted that our relations with the Afghans were extremely unsatisfactory at this moment, and he thought that the hon'ble member for Oldham had been successful in showing the increasing expenditure of our policy in Afghanistan and the injury which was being inflicted upon our Indian finance. It had surprised him, however, to find that the hon'ble member himself proposed to go a step further in the same direction. He should have thought that this country had burnt its fingers sufficiently already by mingling in these affairs; the country was like a hedgehog, and the more we interfered with it the more disposed was it to resent our interference. * * * We were apt to be deluded by the phantom of commerce which had been conjured up. The commerce of Central Asia was so trumpery and paltry, as to be utterly unworthy of any attempts by this country to secure it; and even if we should secure it, the making of a railway through Central Asia would not help us to obtain it. He believed that the idea of penetrating through the country of the Afghans between the Indus and the Oxus was a delusion and a snare, which would lead to a vast expenditure of money and great political complications. If a railway was constructed, he believed there would be no return for the money invested; all the return which would be forthcoming would be the hostility of the Afghans and the Russians, and political complications which would cause great future harm. * * * He was afraid that the Governor-General of India had not succeeded in exercising that amount of control over his military advisers as had been the case in former days. He should like to see some vigour and independence displayed on the part of the Government of India in controlling the military policy which appeared to him to be so predominant." We need hardly say that we subscribe to every word in the foregoing passage. Sir John Gorst, of course, defended the policy pursued by the Government of India towards the Afghan tribes. He, however, said in plain terms that he should be sorry if the House of Commons assented to Mr. Maclean's motion. "The Amir," Sir John continued, "was not a vassal of the Indian Empire. The Amir had been always recognised by us as an independent ally, whom we were bound to protect and assist, and over whose territory we had no right to exercise any authority whatever. * * * The Amir had shown extreme jealousy of anything like an attempt to interfere with his independence. The Government of India never pretended that they had any right to extend the railway to Afghan territory, and the negotiations which took place related to the particular point at which British Indian territory ended and Afghan territory began." Sir John, accordingly, opposed Mr. Maclean's motion,, which was negatived without division.

LABOUR IMMIGRATION INTO ASSAM.

THE most remarkable circumstance to which the Report on Labour Immigration into Assam for the year 1890, submitted by the Chief Commissioner of that province, draws attention in the first place is the considerable falling off in immigration generally during that year. The total number of immigration, including Sardari and Contractors' adults, non-Act adults and children, for the year 1890, was 36,080, against 55,658 of the previous year, thus showing a total decrease of 19,578 or a percentage decrease of 35·1. This is a circumstance of which some adequate explanation is pre-eminently necessary, for the development of the immigration system is of first rate importance as being an index of the development of the material resources of the country, and as tending to offer a practical solution of the growingly difficult problem of finding work for the surplus portion of an ever-increasing labouring population. It is to be regretted, however, that no such explanation has been given, but only some probable causes have been suggested. Of these the most noticeable are the general depression in tea industry, and the abnormal demands for labour in Chota Nagpur, one of the important recruiting provinces. That these may not be probable causes, we are far from saying; but the first, if true, must be itself a really lamentable fact; and its own cause must be traced. In the face, however, of certain other figures, containing in the report we have some doubt whether the tea industry has generally undergone any noticeable depression. The total labour force in the Province, remaining at the end of the year 1889, amounted to 390,468. To this amount there were, during 1890, additions to the extent of 107,794, by way of importations by contractors and garden sardars, recruitments by local labour contracts, recaptured deserters, transfers from other gardens, births and persons otherwise obtained, and deductions to the amount of 90,112, by way of transfers to other gardens, leave with permission or on expiry of contract, deaths, desertions, cancellation of contracts &c., thus leaving a net increase of 17,682 during 1890, and giving a grand total of 408,150 at the close of the year. This would show that, in spite of the considerable falling off which took place in the importation of labour during 1890, there was an increase in that year of 4·5 per cent. on the labour force remaining at the close of 1889, and would negative the theory that there has been a general depression in tea industry.

Another noticeable feature in the working of the immigration system during the past year, is the considerable increase in the recruitment of contractors' adults side by side with the remarkable decrease in the recruitment of Sardari and non-Act adults. Thus while the latter fell off by 52·2 and 36·7 per cent. respectively, the number of contractors' adults advanced by 5·8 per cent. No reason has been ascribed why the systems of Sardari and free recruitment have sustained a check, and bearing in mind that contractors' coolies are as a rule of poorer physique and less suitable for tea-garden work than coolies recruited by Sardars, the falling off which has taken place in the case of the latter is to be regretted.

The Report says that, during the year under review, the prescribed statement, showing complaints of fraudulent practices in connection with recruitment, continued to be submitted by district officers every two months, and action was invariably taken when necessary. But a further perusal of the Report shows that enquiries into cases of enticement and fraudulent recruiting have led to very little result. In most cases, the persons concerned could not be identified and traced to their homes. Knowing as we do the circumstances of life in the lower ranks of people in this country, and how they are always open to fraudulent temptations, we are very much prone to believe that most of these enquiries instituted on one or other of the three accounts mentioned in the Report, (*viz.*, (*a*) on receipt of letters either from the Magistrates of the recruiting districts or from the relatives of the missing persons, (*b*) on the complaints made by the coolies themselves at the time of registration, and (*c*) when the registering officer suspects any fraud in the recruitment of any married or unmarried young woman, unaccompanied by any relations), would disclose malpractices at the bottom of the recuiting system, if only sufficient obligations were laid on sardars and contractors and other recruiters, to identify the coolies, and keep a record of their whereabouts at the time of recruiting them for the labour provinces. In this connection it would be interesting to know how many, if any, such complaints concerned coolies recruited by the licensed female recruiters. The Report makes no mention of that, but we have always an apprehension that that system of recruitment is the one most likely to be faulty and vitiated.

It redounds very much to the credit of the Assam Government, that the work of inspection in connection with the tea-gardens was vigorously carried on throughout the whole year. The number of gardens shown in the inspection registers has increased from 896 to 907, and the number submitting returns from 762 to 772. It is also satisfactory that 748 gardens were inspected against 704 in the preceding year. Moreover, 76 gardens were inspected twice and 4 gardens three times, against 53 and 3 respectively during 1889. But we cannot say that the work in this way has been done to its fullest extent. We expect to see year after year increase in the number of gardens inspected, and there is no reason why all the gardens liable to inspection should not be inspected once at least during the year. The practice, followed in the Nowgong District, of mustering the Act labourers on occasions of inspection, should, we think, be followed in every district.

The last most important topic to which the Report draws attention is the relation between employers and labourers. It is declared to be generally satisfactory, and we have no objection in accepting this statement as true. But we cannot attach much importance to the arguments on which this inference is based in the Report. In the first place, it is observed that "nearly all managers understand that it is to their interest to treat coolies well." Such an understanding was as inevitable from the circumstances of the case several years back as it is now, yet we know stringent legal measures had to be resorted to to restrain the aberrations of the managers. In the next place, it is said that "no complaints on the part of labourers against employers were brought to the notice of the executive authorities." In a country like Assam, this cannot be taken to be a sure criterion of the absence of reasons of complaints. The labourers generally are weak and helpless, the employers strong and influential, and the chance of a criminal proceeding instituted by the former against the latter being successful very small. Under such circumstances, we cannot regard the satisfactory condition of the relations between employers and labourers to be conclusively proved on the data given, especially when we have such cases as the follow-

ing reported :—(*a*,) "The manager of Cherideo and five others were summoned for causing hurt to a coolie, the reason alleged being that the coolie allowed a certain woman to go and live in his house. The beating was evidently a very severe one. Application was made to compromise the case, which the Magistrate most reluctantly had to allow, as the case did not come under either section 325 or 147, Indian Penal Code. The complaint alleged that five men had held the coolie with his face against a ladder, while the manager administered a severe flogging." (*b*) "In three cases the Manager took the law into his own hands, and whipped coolies for repeated drunkenness." * * * In two of these, the manager was fined Rs. 15.

The report submitted to the Government is otherwise a most satisfactory one and throws great credit upon the Secretariat at Assam.

FACTORY LABOUR IN INDIA.

WHEN the production of the Indian Budget furnished an opportunity for a general debate upon the affairs of this country, Mr. Provand availed himself of it to move "that further reforms are necessary in the laws of India dealing with native labour in factories and workshops. He contended that the Indian Act was totally inadequate to meet reasonable requirements and to place factory labour on the footing it occupied in England and in Europe. Mr. Provand went on to make a series of general remarks on the impropriety of letting young people and women in any part of the world work more than a reasonable number of hours in the day. He urged that in India factory labour was practically without legislative protection, as any one of 12 years of age and upwards might be employed as many hours a day and as many days a week as employers thought fit. In order to establish the necessity for further legislation to protect the work-people of India, Mr. Provand quoted the following passage from a despatch addressed to the Governor-General by Lord Cross in May last :—"The general principle of factory legislation as already adopted in this country and in India is that life and health must be protected, and the health of all women, young persons, and children must, so far as possible, be secured. To this principle Her Majesty's Government recently at the Berlin Conference declared its adhesion, thus recommending it for adoption by the other countries of Europe. How far that general principle can be applied in India is a matter for your consideration. As regards additional factory legislation for India due regard must be had to the circumstances of that country, which are in many respects different from those of European nations; but the same general principle is nevertheless applicable, and the object of any such legislation, must be to secure to the various classes of operatives an amount of protection to life and limb, and an amount of security for the health of women, young persons, and children not inferior to that which is afforded by the law of England."

It will thus be seen that Lord Cross wisely left it to the Governor-General in Council to determine how far the principles laid down by the Berlin Conference could be applied in India. Yet Mr. Provand complained that the Government of India had not carried out the instructions received from the Secretary of State, and had passed a totally inadequate measure which failed to meet the requirements of the case. Under the Indian Act a child of nine years of age might be worked 42 hours a week, while in England the limit of age was 11, and that of work 28½ hours. In India girls above 14 and women were to work 66 hours a week, while the English limit was 56½ hours, with longer intervals of rest. These regulations, Mr. Provand argued, did not come up to the principles laid down by Lord Cross. He scouted the notion that Indian children mature at an earlier age than English children. On the contrary, he stated on the authority of a high medical officer in this country whose name he did not, however, mention, that a Hindu girl of 15 was about equal to an English girl of 11, instead of the reverse as was popularly supposed. We think Mr. Provand should have adduced satisfactory evidence to establish this proposition, but he did not bring forward a tittle of it. Mr. Provand told the House in plain terms that there was not one of the principles laid down by the Berlin Conference which had not been violated by the Indian Factory Act recently passed. He did not attempt to divide the House because he hoped for a sympathetic reply from the Government, and he emphatically affirmed that no matter what Government might be in power, Parliament could never be relieved of its responsibility to see that fair and reasonable conditions were laid down for the regulation of native labour in the workshops and factories of India.

The arguments advanced by Mr. Provand in order to prove the necessity for further reforms in Indian factory legislation were satisfactorily answered by the speakers who followed him, and were fully acquainted with the great difference between the conditions of factory labour in England and in India. Mr. Buchannan observed :—"As to the decisions of the Berlin Conference, they related to factory legislation by the Powers of Europe for the countries of Europe, and that the declarations of that Conference had not been followed up by action on the part of Government of which the Right Hon'ble gentleman was a member. Therefore it would be absolutely inconsistent for the Government to endeavour to enforce upon the Indian people rules of legislation devised for European people and climates, and that while they were willing to insist on the recommendations of the Berlin Conference being adopted, in our own country. His Hon'ble friend said that Indian factory legislation should be brought up to the level of the English factory legislation. If the House were to embark on a proposal of that it would be practically endeavouring to perform the legislative duties which has been devolved upon the Governor-General in Council. That would be extremely unfair to the people and the Government of India. What they had rather to complain of was that the Government had already exercised undue pressure on the Government of India in regard to the Factory Act that had just been passed. The slight amount of information supplied to the House by the Government showed that that was so. The universally-expressed opinion in India was that it had been under pressure at home that her Majesty's Government had put pressure on the Indian Government to pass the Indian Factory Act in the form in which it had become law. The whole demand that was being made for Indian legislation in this matter came from Lancashire with whose mills the mills of India competed. It would be exceedingly unfortuuate if this House were to give any encouragement to our agitation which came from such an interested source, and hon'ble members who were not connected with that industry ought to enter a strong protest against the action of the hon'ble member for Glasgow." The truth of these observations will be readily acknowledged by all unbiassed persons who are fully acquainted with the facts of the case. Sir George Campbell protested emphatically against the assumption that all sorts of terrible abominations went on in Indian factories, and justly remarked that there was not the slightest evidence of anything of the kind. Sir George also pointed out that the conditions of factory life in India were totally different from the conditions in Europe, and that in India there was a system of voluntary shifts, by which two or three persons did the work that would be done by one in England. He spoke nothing but the truth when he stated that there was no high pressure or any real evil in Indian factory labour, and that this agitation had been kept in by Lacashire manufacturers. "There were the people," continued Sir George Campbell, "who had pressed on the Government of India the necessity of restraining the manufactures of India under bonds and conditions, and if they agitated the subject at all they ought to do so as rival manufacturers, and not in the character of philanthropists. It seemed to him that the Government of India had gone as far as they reasonably could upon this matter, and it was a question whether, so far as the legislation affecting women was concerned, they had not gone a great deal farther than they ought to go. Her Majesty's Government, being dependent to a large extent on Lancashire votes, had urged a great deal on the Government of India than that Government was willing to do." After these caustic remarks from Sir George Campbell, Mr. J. M. Maclean, M. P., for Oldham, who had for sometime past taken an active part in the agitation for having Indian factory legislation brought up to the level of English factory legislation, frankly admitted that he had never taken up the question of factory labour in India as a philanthropist, and that he had always held that the excessive hours of labours were unfair to the Lancashire operatives, because they were exposed to undue competition. Mr. Maclean urged that "as a certain standard was set up at Berlin it was desirable that regulations of the same kind should be applied to India, as well as to the European countries which had taken part in the Conference." It is the bounden duty of our Government to watch and see that our rising industries do not suffer from jealousy. The recently passed Act, in some respects, goes beyond the recommendations of the Factory Commissoner and if further restrictions were imposed on factory labour in this country, our industries are sure to suffer severely.

Latest News and Notes.

THE Queen of Roumania, who is staying in Venice, has been seized with an alarming illness. She is a poetess of considerable merit and her critical condition has excited great sympathy in Europe.

THE University examinations in Arts, Law, Medicine, and Engineering for the year 1892 will be held on the undermentioned dates—Entrance Examination on Monday, the 8th February, and following days. F.A. and B.A. examinations on Monday, the 29th February, and following days. Preliminary Scientific L.M.S., First and Second L. M.S. examinations on Monday, the 7th March, and following days. Preliminary Scientific M.B., First and Second M.B., M.D., and F.E. examinations on Monday, the 2nd May, and following days. L.E. and B. E. examinations on Monday, the 11th July, and following days. M.A. B.L., Honours in Law, and Premchand Roychand Studentship examinations on Monday, the 7th November, and following days. The announcements, we take it, are with "corrections up to date" and do not infringe any holidays or festivals, either Hindu or Mahomedan. A little more thoughtfulness on the part of the University authorities would prevent these inconveniences.

THE Municipality had its sale of surplus land along the Sealdah section of the Central Road last week, and it was a much better success than the city fathers had anticipated, for they did not expect more than two lacs for all the lots put up. Although the reserve prices were not disclosed, it was expected that nothing more than two thousand a cattah in the average would be offered for the four bigahs of land that was for sale. This would be decidedly a good price, for the Corporation had paid for these very lands much less. An average of 2,500 Rs. a Cattah was however obtained and only a few lots were not sold, the offers not coming up to the reserve standard, though some of these latter were subsequently disposed of by private sale at the upset price. Very few of the plots are fit for building purposes, for they represent all conceivable forms of Geometrical absurdities. It was, however, felt that the *tookras* would do excellently well for shops which fetch a better rent than dwelling houses and hence the fancy prices paid, which in some cases went up as high as 3900 Rs. The auctioneers might draw a glowing picture in electict light. But when Building regulations in all

their rigours come to be enforced on the model road, many pleasant dreams will vanish and it will be found that neither dwelling houses nor shops will be worth having there. *Maths* and huts alone will prosper if indeed they be tolerated. The first rush and mania over, the contigious sections may not fetch as much, and it has been decided, we believe, to let the speculators' mind rest a little before others are offered for sale. The Corporation might have done better still in this very sale, if it had paid a little more attention to Hindu prejudices, which prevent the orthodox from buying or selling land in the inauspicious month of *Bhadra*. There is rejoicing among the Commissioners, because if things go on at this rate, under more favourable auspicies they will do better and it is expected that Sir Henry Harrison's prediction that by the master stroke of policy which sanctioned spoliation, they will get this ideally grand road for nothing. One who knows better, however, still misdoubts and puts down the net outlay when accounts are balanced, at thirteen to thirty lacs of rupees. An economically inclined rate-payer asks why Messrs. Mackenzie Lyall and Company should have fat commissions paid to them, while the officers of the Corporation might have conducted the sale themselves, with as great success and as they had done before?

THE road department of the Corporation is a veritable mystery, like most others and its ways are inscrutable. Not very long ago denizens of the Old Court House Street complained that their business was greatly interfered with in season, by the thoughtless mode of road repairs. The denizens of Wellesley Place and Hastings Street have a similar and perhaps a much graver complaint just now. Because the Chief Justice and the Judges are away, it is taken for granted that the profession is away also and liberties can be taken with the roads adjoining the High Court. Proceeding on these natural assumptions, streets are taken up for repairs *en block* instead of in half breadths as usual and the profession and the public are put to great inconvenience and discomfort, because the pressure of business is just as great as when the Court closed. This is perhaps seen and felt too late and the repairs are finished summarily and no time is allowed for settlement. The result is that the slightest drizzle leaves an intolerable mire and the road had not been at all repaired as well, for people fared decidedly better before. There is no proper supervision in these paltry matters of detail and the Subordinate Executive have, we are afraid, everything in their way. If these repairs were undertaken after the rains during close holidays and by halves, repairs would not perhaps be necessary for two or three years at a stretch. But this would not suit the department accustomed to annual repairs. An idea strikes us in this connection which the Commissioners might work up, if it recommended itself to them. There should be small Standing Committees as controlling agencies of this and other departments. The irrigularities would be fewer and the public would be better served.

THE breaches on the line between Kareli and Nursinghpur stations have been sufficiently repaired to admit of goods and passenger trains passing over. Very heavy rain has fallen at Hoshangabad, Pachmarhi, and more is threatening Jabbalpur. A break was reported on the Midland Railway at Hetampur near Dholpur, but it was repaired in time to allow the outward English mail to pass.

GREAT honor has been done in England to Dr. Bahadhurji who was entertained at luncheon by the Northbrook Club on Wednesday, Mr. Bhownagree presiding. Sir George Birdwood, Messrs. Dadabhai Naoroji, Kapadia Moola, and a number of other gentlemen from India were present. Dr. Bahadhurji returns to India shortly.

AT one of the meetings of the Oriental Congress a paper was read by Mr. Bellew on the Ethnography of Afghanistan. In the course of his paper Mr. Bellew said that he was convinced that the Barakis and Barangis are descendants of the Greeks who were settled in Afghanistan by Darius, Hydaspes and Xerxes. The Congress has resolved to petition the Indian Government to depute competent men to enquire into the history of the frontier tribes of India. Mr. Bellew is an authority on matters Afghan and in Dr. Leitner he has a capable and willing auxiliery. But the Government of India is not likely to be much interested in the matter and may not stir. It is unpleasant for some Anglo-Indians to think that they could possibly have descended from the same Aryan stock as "niggers" and the Greek "Power" may be offended at the idea of even the remotest relationship with Afghan *feringees*. But why should not the theory of common origin hold?

AT the French Army manœuvres a captive balloon connected by telephones to several divisions of the army kept the staffs advised of the movements of troops. The manœuvres shew that the Army is in an admirable state of organisation.

THE Manipur "affair" is bearing its fruits. The construction of the Assam-Burma road has been sanctioned. It goes from the river *via* Golaghat and Nichuguard to Kohima and Manipur along the present track, and then by a new line to Kendat on the Chindwin river. One who knows predicts that Manipur tea will soon be quite a fashion.

AFTER long and excellent service Babu Hemchandra Kar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Alipur, retires on good service pension. He had several extensions granted to him under the 55 years' rule.

AS an additional accessory to public safety, over-bridges at railway stations where traffic is large are indispensable. The East India Railway recognised this betimes and provided over-bridges at most important of its stations, if not all. The Eastern Bengal Railway is now seeing the necessity of these bridges and we are glad to learn that Dum Dum and Belgharia are to have them soon. Other stations, we are told, will not be left uncared for long.

THE *Englishman* says that the statement that "the selection of a ruler in Manipur will be made in a fortnight is a mere surmise. No time it is said is even approximately fixed, nor is there any reason for haste." Of course not, though there was every reason to hasten the executions of which we have had the *post mortem* defences recently. But if we are not much mistaken our contemporary was one of those that gave the public an idea of the time within which the selection would be made. It may not be convenient to set up a puppet while the public have the question too prominently before it, at least in England. A possible candidate for the Manipur *gadi*, it is supposed, will be found among the grandsons of Chandra Kirti Singh, a collateral branch of the late ruling family. The *Statesman* has different information from that of the *Englishman* and says that the Government of India have now come to a decision regarding the succession to the Manipur *gadi*, and this is likely to be announced shortly.

A TELEGRAPH-signaller of the name of Farmer is now in hospital and suffering from a gun-shot wound. The man being in a critical condition the Chief Presidency Magistrate took his statement and he says that while lying on a bench in the *maidan* near the St. Paul's Cathedral he was shot by some one and that a gold watch and chain which he had with him are missing. He, however, admitted his himself having a revolver and the Police did find a revolver near a tank some way off from where he was lying and a number of cartridges were found in his waist-coat pocket. The affair seems to be shrouded in mystery and the Police have found no clue of any other man who could have done the deed. It is supposed to have been a case of attempted suicide, for which there are strong suspicions.

THE Dacca bribery case has been ordered to be tried by a jury in the High Court. The application was made by Mr. Hill before the Vacation Bench on Monday and it was represented that the accused would be much prejudiced in their trial at Dacca. It was stated that the first accused was a pleader of very long standing at Dacca. He had also occupied the position of the first elected Chairman of the local Municipality, and was also connected with a registered Loan Office Company, called the Dacca Loan Office. In the course of his career in these various capacities he had made a good many enemies at Dacca. It was also stated that hand-bills had been issued from an unknown press in Dacca, and had been circulated much to the prejudice of the accused. The Judges, therefore, saw the justice of the transfer at once and there was no opposition from the prosecution so far as the transfer itself was concerned.

WE learn with pleasure that Babu Sheobux Bogla has made over the sum of Rs. 30,000 to the Government of Bengal in aid of the establishment of a Veterinary School and hospital near the Pinjrapole at Sodepur. He has also offered two *bigghas* of land or its equivalent in money in aid of the object. We hear that Sir Charles Elliott has appointed a committee consisting of the donor, Babu Sheobux Bogla, W. B. Gwyther Esq., of the P. W .D., and the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, to report on the suitability of land near Calcutta to accommodate an institution of the kind.

THE "Imperial" diamond case in which Mr. Jacob is accused of criminal breach of trust and criminal misappropriation at the instance of His Highness the Nizam of Hydrabad, is going on at the Police Court. Mr. Woodroffe, who is rarely seen in the Police Court, is leading on the side of the prosecution, while Messrs Ghosh, Apcar and Pearson are defending the accused. As we informed our readers, immediately on receipt of intimation that a warrant had been issued for his arrest, Mr. Jacob came down from Simla, and to avoid the ignominy of an arrest, he got down at Hoogly, came to town by the Eastern Bengal Railway and presented himself to his solicitors. His solicitors arranged with the solicitors on the other side that on his depositing the diamond in the Bank of Bengal he would not be arrested, but would be allowed to surrender. When the diamond was, however, deposited in the Bank the prosecution changed its mind and Mr. Jacob was arrested. Bail was refused by the Magistrate and a motion to the High Court was not successful, so that he was remanded to jail. This case has excited interest as Mr. Jacob is a rich and fashionable jeweller and is the original of the hero of a well-known contemporary novel. He is allowed to get his meals from the Great Eastern Hotel and his private servants have been allowed to wait upon him. His house at Simla which had been sealed up has been searched and released after some ado. The prosecution have up to now proved that the Bank of Bengal paid him 23 lacs of rupees on account of the Nizam, 22 lacs of which have been paid by him to Messrs Kilburn and Co., the Agents of the owners of this historic diamond. Most of the leading Counsel having been retained by the prosecution. Mr. Jacob has retained Mr. Inverarity, the well-known Bombay Barrister, who and Mr. Burder, a solicitor, are now on their way to Calcutta. This, we are afraid, is no great compliment to the Calcutta bar.

BARON Hirsch has floated a Company with great trading and financial powers to promote the emigration of oppressed poor Jews in Europe and Asia to America. There are eight

subscribers to the Company, including Messrs. Rothschilds and Julian Goldsmid. The capital is placed at two millions.

IT is stated that amongst our cold weather visitors this year, will be Lord Dormer Sir E. Boehm and Lady Conyers.

WE have the pleasure to announce to our readers that now that the *Puja* is coming, Messrs Hamilton and Co., the well-known jewellers of this city, have made special arrangements for the season, and are daily exhibiting for sale a variety of the choicest ornaments, both European and Native, at a fair price. We would ask our readers to go and have a look at the valuable and beautifully arranged show-room over which much trouble has been taken by the enterprising management.

ACCORDING to one of the perennial military railway items, sanction has been given to carry the Kabul River Railway as far as Fort Michni, in British territory; but it is said it may be possible to carry the line though the hills north of the Khyber. The Secretary of State has sanctioned the construction of the Cawhati Lumding Section of the Assam Bengal Railway. A survey of a line of railway from Midnapur to Sina on the Bengal and Nagpur system has been completed. The full survey from Howrah to Midnapur will now be undertaken.

THE insufficiency of the Copy-right Law, which we complained of in connection with the Star Theatre case, is drawing general attention. The *Statesman* observes :—

The decision of the High Court in the Star Theatre Copyright case, *viz.*, that while the Indian Copyright Act does not cover acting rights, 3 and 4 William IV. C. 5, and 5 and 6 Vic. C. 45, do not apply to dramatic pieces produced and published in India, as well as the recent decision of, we believe, the Bombay High Court, that neither the English nor the Indian Copyright law protects an English copyright work against unauthorised publication of its contents in the form of a translation into one of the Vernaculars, shows that our Copyright law stands in urgent need of amendment. Acting rights in India, at all events in vernacular dramas, are becoming daily more valuable, and their protection is an essential condition of the development of the native theatre. In the other case, the missing right is, perhaps, not as yet a very valuable one, but that is no good reason why, such as it is, it should not be protected.

It is high time for the legislature to take up the matter in right earnest and leave fancy tinkering alone, for a while.

A NEW station has been sanctioned at Simlagurh between Pandua and Boinchee on the East Indian Railway and has been taken in hand at once. The land is the gift of the local Zemindars and the station is expected to be opened for traffic before the *Pujas*. What has happened to the intended station at Rishra? The project has been hanging fire long and the inconvenience to the Rishra and Mahesh public in the meantime is great.

WE learn with pleasure that our friends in Bombay are alive to the exigencies of the times. They have determined to form a Press Association, which we trust will be fraught with good to the country, as we hope ours to be. Press Associations should be formed without delay at all centres of public opinion.

THE distress in Russia by the failure of the crops, Reuter reports, is assuming terrible dimensions in country districts. It is said that the peasants are infecting their children with diptheria to save them from death by starvation.

TELEGRAMS recieved at New York state that a terrific earthquake has been experienced in Solvador, destroying many towns and millions worth of property. Many persons have been entombed in the ruins.

WE have been requested to publish the following circular letter which has just been issued by the Standing Committee of the Provincial Conference :—

THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION OFFICE,
62, Bowbazar Street,
Calcutta, 2nd September, 1891.

SIR,—We are directed by the Standing Committee of the Provincial Conference to inform you that it is proposed to hold the next meeting of the Provincial Conference on the 29th and 30th October and to invite you to elect your delegates for the Conference. The time selected for the meetings of the Conference has been in accordance with what has hitherto been the uniform practice to hold the Conference between the Lakshmi and Kali Pujas. If the time should appear unsuitable to you, we should be obliged by your suggesting any other time.

The Committee have tentatively fixed upon the following subjects :—

(1) Local Self-Government.
(2) The Police and Punchayet.
(3) Embankments.
(4) Sanitation.
(5) Technical Education.
(6) Civil and Criminal Justice.
(7) Coolie Emigration.

We should be obliged by your kindly informing us as to whether you approve of these subjects. If so, any expression of your views with regard to them would be thankfully received. Any suggestions which you may make with a view to the addition, modification or omission of any subject would be welcome. An early reply is solicited.

Last year owing to various causes, the Conference was not held. It was held after the session of the Congress, and the attendance was meagre. The Committee earnestly hope that no efforts will be wanting on your part to secure the adequate and full representation of your part of the country in the approaching Conference. These yearly meetings of the Delegates of the Province for the purpose of discussing questions affecting the well-being of the province cannot fail to have a most healthy effect upon the growth of public opinion.

Yours faithfully,
J. Ghosal
Surendranath Bannerjea,
Secretaries.

The letter speaks for itself. The movement is one, which, we need hardly say, has our strongest sympathy, as we are sure it will have the sympathy of all right-minded men interested in the political well-being of the country. It is a distinct advantage that the town and the country should meet once a year for the discussion of public questions. Apart from the influence, which a conference of this kind, cannot fail to exert upon the administration of the country, it must give a fresh impetus to the growth of public feeling. Upon all grounds a Conference of this kind is desirable and we trust it will be largely attended by our conntrymen from the mafussil. As Dr. Mahendrala Sircar observed on one occasion, these Conferences are but feeders which swell the great stream of the National Congress. It is a kindred movement, having kindred objects in view, though less wide in its scope and less ambitious in its aims and purposes. If the Congress movement is entitled to our sympathy and consideration the Provincial Conference ought to receive some measure of the same encouragement at our hands; for the provincial questions which it deals with come home to us with peculiar force.

THE dismissal of Kiamil Pasha by the Sultan is regarded in Europe as a Franco-Russian triumph, inimical to British interests in Egypt, and favourable to Russian designs in Bulgaria. The Sultan has appointed Djevad Pasha Grand Vizier in place of Kiamil Pasha. Kiamil Pasha, is virtually a prisoner, being suspected of plotting against the Sultan. It is officially announced that the change made in the Ministry implies no change made in the European policy of the Porte. Russia is not slow to take advantage of the growing friendship with France. She is arranging for issue of a French loan of twenty millions sterling.

THE *Indian Daily News* learns that Dr. R. C. Chandra, will retire at the latter end of October. The office which he holds, says our contemporary, has been filled by Native doctors, and was successively held by Dr. Goodeve Chakrabarti and himself. This is the only appointment in the Presidency open to a Native member of the Indian Medical Service. Now that there are so many Native officers of good service and merit, it may be assumed, our contemporary goes on, that their claim will be taken into consideration by the Government of India for the appointment of a Native Civil Surgeon, because a Native officer has better opportunity and facility of acquiring a knowledge of indigenous drugs and systems of medicine. We endorse every word of the *Indian Daily News* and hope that a qualified native Civil Surgeon, of whom there are so many, should be appointed to succeed Dr. Chandra. There are so few qualified European or England-returned physicians now in our midst that Dr. Chandra's retirement—if it means retirement from India—will be a great loss. His reputation and success as a physician are deservedly high and it is to be hoped that on retiring from public service he will devote himself to private practice. The *Indian Medical Record* proposes, and the *Indian Daily News* supports the proposal, that private practitioners should have access to hospitals for enlarging their experience for the benefit of their patients. If this proposal is adopted, Dr. Chandra's connection with the Medical College Hospital even after his retirement need not cease and the Hospital will be decidedly the gainer thereby.

A VERNACULAR contemporary gives currency to a report that a professor of the Presidency College recently told his students that they were a nation of liars, and that falsehood was their national characteristic. In doing so, he was perhaps following the footsteps of another illustrious educationist. The circumstances under which this theory was propounded were perhaps a shade less provoking; but such unseemly display of temper by an educator of youth was unbecoming. It appears that on the professor leaving his class some noise was made, the authors whereof did not disclose themselves on being questioned. The front form boys were questioned; but they could not say who had made the noise as it had been made from behind. Hence they were told that they *were* a nation of liars. Such sweeping generalisations might be expected to be foreign to cultured intellect, yet there is no hesitation in making them. What is tolerated with impunity at the dinner table is boldly asserted in public, for there is not even a show of check. While we, of course, feel supreme contempt for those worthnothing cowards, who though guilty of nothing worse than boyish pranks that would not even deserve admonition, had not courage enough to tell the truth and avow their faults. But what shall we or Government say of the model professor who so far forgets himself as to stigmatise a whole nation by which he is fed, clothed and housed, because of some boyish shortcomings in his pupils? His duty is to root out the evil and not to earn contempt and make his own work impossible. The boy is no doubt father to the man; but there are black sheep in every fold as there always will be. The other day some military students of the Medical College assaulted unoffending tram-car passengers and did not admit their offence. When questioned by their principal, they did not disclose themselves but had to be picked out and handed over to the Police. Was the English nation then stigmatised as one of liars and would any man in his senses think of laying such a charge? The love of truth in the professor of the Presidency College may be very keen and sensitive. But it is said that upon complaint being made to the Principal about his observation, he tried to shield himself by saying that he did not tell the whole class that they were a nation of liars but only the offenders whom he could not detect. Such hair-splitting philosophy is beyond our comprehension. This is in keeping with the explanation which another professor had given ten years ago, when he was charged with telling some of the boys that he would *kick* them out. He said he had meant *keep* them out.

A CONTEMPORARY gives a fairly correct version of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar's Will and others have quoted him. The publication is unfortunate as it embarrasses the Executors and relatives of the Pandit considerably. Nothing should be said until the Will is proved and probate is grant-

ed. Journalists in their anxiety for sensational news and to be first in the field with it, should not forget the respect that is due to private rights. The position of the Executors is by no means free from difficulties. They should not be further hampered by these artificial difficulties.

HOW unwarrantable the early closure of the High Court is, will appear from the pressure of business that is being felt every day that the vacation bench sat whether in the Original or Appellate side. The judges are now as hard-worked as ever and Chambers and Courts are thronged by Counsel, attorney and vakils anxious to get their business through. This must be so when the subordinate Courts have still a good month's work before them and litigants are anxious to get in their money against the *Puja*. Thursday last was the last day for ordinary vacation work and the Court offices are now closed. There should be some relaxation of this rule and the vacation bench should sit oftner for current work, of which a good deal is yet left undone. There is no reason why Court officers should get longer holidays, than mafassil Courts and the profession. Messrs Justices Beverley and Amir Ali, who are both good-natured and accommo lating gentlemen, would be sure to consult public convenience. We trust this matter will be looked into and business will not be handicapped before its time. Mr. Belchambers, of the Original side, loves work and he can easily influence his subordinates. Enforced idleness is the bane of work. As a matter of fact Mr. Belchambers has ordered that the "offices under him should not close till current work is finished. There is something supremely absurd in even the Receiver of the Court issuing circulars that he will not make payments beyond a certain date five weeks before the Puja.

WE are requested to announce that a Silver Medal will be awarded to the best essay on "*The Censorship of the Press*," at the third Anniversary meeting of the Chaitanya Library and Beadon Square Literary Club. Papers must be sent in on or before 15th December. The examiners appointed are Rev. A. Tomory, M.A., and A. Chaudhuri, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

LORD WENLOCK'S speeches in the course of his last tour were a series of vindications of the famine policy of Government. At Palladam, the centre of the affected tract in Coimbatore, His Excellency explained the necessity of Government reserving the right of grazing in forests for better classes of cattle :—

He did not see how it was possible for Government to devise any scheme for keeping alive a large number of animals which are no longer worth preserving. Traders from other parts of Iudia had taken advantage of the scarcity to come and buy good cattle at low rates. Government would be glad to advance loans to the ryots for replacing those cattle, and he agreed with them that the surest safeguard against famine was digging wells. The Governor then discussed the questions of granting loans on security of land, and proceeding to notice a remark as to the creation of a Well Irrigation Department, His Excellency said :—"With regard to that I am bound to say that if all other things fail it will be the duty of Government to go into this as a State measure. At present I am anxious to watch carefully the development and working of these well rules, and remove any obstacles in the way, because I believe it is much easier and cheaper for ryots to dig wells than for the State to dig them." The Governor then proceeded to deny that work was being rigorously exacted at the relief works. He believed that the works started would meet all the necessities of the case, and the kitchens opened would also be sufficient.

His Excellency returned to Utacamund on Monday. It is reported from Coimbatore that the impression produced was that the people there were not suffering to any great extent. Mr. Caine, as we expected, has, however, returned to the charge. According to a London telegram Mr. Caine has written to the *Pall Mall Gazette* replying to Lord Wenlock's recent criticisms on his statements regarding the distress in the Madras Presidency. Mr. Caine says that his informant is an extremely well-informed Native gentleman, who is more likely to be correct than Lord Wenlock, whom he warmly attacks. He advises the Governor of Madras to take the educated Native more into his confidence.

ANOTHER paharawallah who was severely wounded in the Shambazar riot is dead. The case for the prosecution of the second and third batches closed on Tuesday with the examination of Mr. Lambert, the medical evidence taken in the lower Court being simply put in without the witnesses being called. The defence calling no witness Mr. Henderson summed up for the prosecution on Tuesday. One of accused against whom there was no evidence was discharged by the presiding judge at the close of the case for the prosecution. Mr. Garth addressed the Jury on behalf of the defence on Wednesday and Thursday and the Judge's charge took up the whole of Friday. The Jury acquitted four of the prisoners and convicted the others on various charges. The Judge agreeing with the verdict, reserved judgment till Saturday. One prisoner was sentenced to eight, two to seven, and five to five years' rigorous imprisonment. An appeal against the conviction and sentence will be laid in the High Court. Mr. Garth addressing the Judge after verdict had been brought in said :—

Before sentences were passed on the eight prisoners he would ask the Court to take a matter into consideration. He said that since the passing of the Age of Consent Act, the religious feelings of the Hindus and Mohamedans alike had been excited to an extent hitherto unknown, and the consequence was that there were outbreaks of riot among the ignorant classes of people who could not appreciate the wisdom of the policy of Government in legislating upon matters concerning their religion. In the present instance, Mr. Garth submitted that but for the unfortunate coincidence in the apprearance of dhangars and police in the vicinity of the mosque in question, the Mohamedans believing that it was going to be destroyed, would never have acted as they did. Their religious feelings had been so excited that they were rendered scarcely responsible for their deeds. Mr. Garth urged that the Court would take a case of this nature into consideration in view to award a considerably less punishment than is usually given for offences of the kind. This course, Mr. Garth said, had been adopted in the case of the Benares rioters.

No mercy was shown to the Benares rioters, though Mr. Garth asserted to the contrary. It was absurd to contend seriously in a court of law that the Age of Consent agitation could possibly have anything to do with a captious Musulman riot.

KAVIRAJ Abinash Chandra Kaviratna, the translator of *Charak* and *Susruta*, is to be congratulated on the support he has received at the hands of Government. The Bengal and Bombay Governments have respectively paid Rs. 1000 each towards the expense of his praiseworthy undertaking.

THE *Academy* in noticing Babu Gourdas Bysak's paper on the nomenclature of Kalighat, makes the following appreciative remarks :—

Babu Gourdas Bysack, whose paper upon an old Buddhist monastery near Calcutta of the time of Warren Hastings was noticed in a former number of the *Academy*, has contributed another article to the proceedings of the Bengal Asiatic Society on the names "Kalighat" and "Calcutta." So far as we understand his arguments, he will not allow that the latter name is derived from the former, partly for phonetic reasons and partly because no "Hindu, not even the most ignorant, will corrupt in hasty utterance, much less in writing, the name of such an universally worshipped diety asKali into Kali or Kal."Neither of these arguments, however, would apply to a European corruption, afterwards adopted by the natives. Our author prefers to look for the etymology of "Calcutta" in the aboriginal tribe of Kols. Though we are not convinced by his reasoning, he deserves our thanks for the materials he has collected, specially that derived from Bengali Mss, and family traditions. We hope that he will be encouraged to continue his topographical researches among the documents of early Anglo Indian history.

DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER.—This famous and popular remedy has been found to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human frame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism; Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers ,Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, and Eruptions on the Skin. Highly recommended by the Medical faculty. Thousands of Testimonials of its marvellous cures. St. John Buchan writes from Allahabad :—"It acted like a charm." Call for Darlington's Pain-Curer and see you get it. Per bottles Re. 1; large size, Rs. 2; packing and postage As. 8.' May be had from 'Messrs. Darlington & Co., at their stablishment 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

The explanation of the *Academy* as to initial corruption of the name by Europeans, has a look of probability. The same thing was observed by a learned friend of Babu Gourdas Bysak, who wrote to him as follows on publication of his paper :—

There are four theories I see about the origin of the name of Calcutta.

(1) The *Cali* or Contention Theory.
(2) The *Kelkila* theory of Raja Radha Kant.
(3) The *Kolkihatta* theory of a "learned friend."
(4) The Kali compound theory.

The only theory for which you have advanced *pucca* arguments such as those furnished by the Bengal and Agra annual guide and Gorstan and Nawab Mahabat Khan and the practice of exclaiming at the time of gun fire "Bom Kali", is the Kali compound theory. The good Nawab having been nearer the source of the tradition that Kali is the mistress of Calcutta by almost a century than we should have met with greater deference from you than you have been pleased to offer him. Testimonies of men like him should have greater weight with us than the ingenious theories of thousands of our contemporaries. After a second perusal of your pamphlet and a mature consideration of the subject, I am for the Kali Katta theory of the Nawab. It is not that vulgar people do not corrupt the names of their principal deities. The people of Bengal call "Siva" Shib and those of the North Western *Sheo*, and people say Kali maye. Although they say it is jest, yet it shows the posibility of corruption by the vulgar. I do not agree with you in the opinion that the names of our metropolis is not derived fron Kalighat or Kalighatta. If the first savayets of Kali could find a name to a renowned quarter of Calcutta, why cannot the goddess herself give her name to the whole town?

Babu Gourdas did not advance any positive theory but combated the prevailing theories as to the origin of the name only in a negative way. The matter is by no means decided and there is ample room for further researches which, let us trust, will not be yet given up. The solution is still enveloped in mystery. As for the extent to which European corruption could go, the name *Isle de Bati* for Allahabad that a French writer of the 16th century gave it, is an instance.

THE latest despatches from Chile announce the surrender of Coquimbo to the Congressionalists. A provisional government has been formed at Santiago. The Admirals of foreign ships at Valparaiso have conveyed the Balmacedan refugees to Mollendo. It is reported that the German Admiral has refused to surrender to the Congressionalists the officials of Balmaceda's party who have taken refuge on his ships, except under an order from the Emperor William.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Law Lecturer of King's College London (J. H. Scaife, LL.B.), says (Jan., 1891) : "Invaluable for examination purposes and as a sound training of the Memory." A Cambridge University) Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle, M.A.) was (Jan., 1890- "Much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." "I derived great benefit for your lessons, though it at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Pysician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, &c., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson, Bengal S. C. "Excellent' travelling companion."—Capt J. B. Haye, R. N. "Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Sader-ud-din Khan. "Invaluable.'' —J. J. Francis, Q. B. "Does not involve much labour."—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct., 1887. "The audience (representative of the learned Professions) was most enthusiastic." *Glasgow Herald*, 5th March, 1891 Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th Feb., 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil Rs. 76; Ten pupils Rs. 19 each. Apply to F. Fisk Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta; or to A LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London

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Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

London, August 12, 1891.

FACTORY LEGISLATION.

Since the prorogation of Parliament the controversy has been kept up in the newspapers and one has been reminded from the variety of statements that have appeared, of the famous dispute as to the colour of the chameleon. One party can see nothing but a system of slavery in the working of the Indian mills, or at least one incomparably inferior on grounds of humanity to that of England. On the other hand other writers assert that the declaimers against Indian mill operations are as ignorant of the real facts as their fellow rhetoricians the opium agitators. This contention they support by facts and descriptions of mill life which seem to justify this opinion of their opponents' qualifications for guiding the English public in this matter. Those of us who are not acquainted with the routine of Indian mills read the description of them by those who have the management of them with feelings of amusement when we compare it with what we know of the strict discipline which exists in our mills in this country. We are reminded too of the holidays which to an Englishman seem amazingly uneconomical factors in Indian life. With the exception of our 52 Sundays in the year the English working man knows very little of holidays. As regards the hours of work too, it would seem that more considerable humane treatment is received by the native factory-hand in India than is received by his or her fellow-workers in Great Britain. We know that in an English factory the hours of labour are continuous. From the time an employe enters the gate to the time of leaving it he is—except for certain purposes—continuously and uninterruptedly at work. If there is any falling off in the tale of work wages are cut; if damage is done it must be repaired, and if a holiday is wanted or sickness supervenes a substitute must be obtained
and paid or prompt dismissal ensues. The writer who reminds us of these facts explains in detail how different from this is the working of an Indian mill, and he thinks that a native employe's actual work cannot be set down at more than seven-twelfths, if so much. The plain reference from this therefore is that any comparison of hours with those in Lancashire or other towns of England is completely fallacious and moreover to this must be added the admitted fact that the Indian mill-operative is in skill and physical power much inferior to the English workman, and that, even if he worked as regularly, his production would not be nearly as valuable. It is really asking too much therefore that with these advantages the English millowner should wish to remove the only condition which enables Indian mills to redress to some extent their inequalities.

From the business point of view the demand is altogether an unreasonable one and so far as the question is one between Indian mill-owners and English manufacturers the latter have no good case even on their extraordinary assumption that it is the duty of the British Government to legislate in order to turn the balance of advantages from India to England. But if we adopt the theory of Sir W. Hunter as to the great part which the introduction of flourishing manufactures into India will play in lessening the pressure of population upon the land, and in changing the character of the people from the precarious one of mere agriculturists, which they are more and more tending to assume, this demand becomes even more unreasonable and unjust. It is too late now to save the small Indian artizan of the old days, but there is no reason why the new system of large production which in other countries of the world as well as in India has taken the place of home industries, should be stamped out in India, as manufactures were stamped out in Ireland, for the benefit of British manufacturers. That is an injustice which we are surely not prepared deleberately to repeat.

It is not possible that upon any other grounds than those of humanity to children and women that any appeal to the British public in this matter will be successful. Such letters as I have spoken of will ever in this respect make us cautious of accepting many statements that have been made with the object of moving our feelings. On the other hand we shall not, merely because we see too plainly the tactics of the English manufacturers, take for absolute truth the assertions of opposite party. We have our own factory legislation protecting women and children and we have not listened to those who in the interest of business would sacrifice the weak and defenceless. As you are aware even during the last session the age of children at the factories has been raised in order that their education may be advanced. We have a real and unaffected desire to save children from taking up the heavy burdens of life so soon that they may never know the real happiness which should be the inalienable birth-right of the young. So far as English opinion has any influence upon Indian legislation it may be counted upon to be on the side of further restrictions in this matter of the enquiry which Lord Lansdowne has instituted shall show that the interests of children and women need to be further safe-guarded. In such a matter we do not fear that Indian opinion is not as humanitarian as our own, and this knowledge has the good effect of puting us on careful enquiry where differences arise between us and you. The responsibility of England as distinct from the English in India, is a fact of growing importance. It is being assumed more and more with the approbation of Indians themselves and this is rendering us more and more disinclined to take the *ex-parte* statements of any class of persons, official a otherwise, who are interested only in their own behalf, and not in that of the people at large. It is this feeling which has given us cause to pause over the opium question, and which has caused us to look upon the recent debate on the factory laws in the House of Commons as being unsatisfactory. If the English nation at large is to assist more directly than ever in governing India it is alive to the importance of ascertaining at any cost the real facts before putting out its hand to interfere in any matter whatsoever. In that of further factory legislation this state of mind cannot be better described than in the words of the *Times* in its article on Indian affairs. It says "The question now is whether the Act and the instructions issued in accordance with it are sufficient to protect female and child workers under the actual conditions of Indian factory labour. This is a question which cannot be treated with any pretension to fairness or completeness in the House of Commons. It is a question for experts, and for men who have carefully studied not the English but the Indian factory system. Mr. Holt Hallet is therefore to be congratulated on his intention to bring the matter before the International Congress of Hygiene and Demography now meeting in London." It concludes with the remark, which I believe will be found to me as I have above suggested, that "He may rest assured that if he makes out a good case, not for assimilating Indian factory legislation to English factory legislation, but for further legislation, required to meet the actual conditions and needs of female and child workers in Indian factories, he will receive respectful attention in India."

The *Times* writer has done good service in making clear to the English public with how much shrewdness and discrimination the Indian people treat these questions, in the constrast he has drawn between their reception of the factory proposals and those made by Sir Joseph Pease and his friends in the opium affair. It is shown that whereas in the former case there is manifested a desire to arrive at the real facts, the people of India are neither indifferent nor selfishly hostile. They will give Mr. Holt Hallet and his party a fair hearing, because it has been understood that the discussion in the House of Commons had been preceded by a careful investigation, which could be opposed to the statements of those who sought not so much to rely upon facts as to push their own interested theories. This investigation had shown that the restrictions proposed were not required for the protection of the Indian worker and were a mere device for handi-capping Indian industries in favour of Lancashire millowners. The precedent was a good one, and in the event of further proposals it was felt that the same cautious and reasonable method would be followed.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation, the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M D, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use, strongly recommended this preparation, and observed:—I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value." This eminent Physician remarks :—" With strumous and emaciated subjects, and where the general health is impaired this remedy tells with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and remaining effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory. Its favourable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harfrod and Co., 210, High Holborn London.

In the matter of the opium cultivation, a different method had been pursued, and a march had been stolen upon the Indian people. Hence the unanimity with which, as the writer points out, the Anglo-Indian and the Native Press had dwelt on the cynical disregard displayed by Sir Joseph Pease and his fellow agitators towards the Indian people. In this matter the House of Commons proceeded in defiance of the facts. In the factory discussion it refused to go contrary to ascertained facts. The Indian people noticed the difference and hence the difference of their attitude. It is not necessary to re-state those facts thus disregarded by Sir Joseph Pease as the *Times* does. But the appeal made to that gentleman and the points which it urges upon him are worth noticing. It reminds him that his success of last session renders it his imperative duty to state what action he desires the Indian Government to take, not in regard to making good the deficit, for it is admitted that the goodness of his cause need not stand or fall by his attempt to solve difficulties from which the ablest and most experienced financiers of India shrink, but in regard to the abolition or modification of the opium trade. "It is only by a can did statement of this kind that public opinion in England and in India can judge aright of the proposals. Those proposals may be innocuous; it is conceivable, indeed, that they might, by introducing a better system of excise, be actually profitable to the Indian revenue." But, in any case, it proceeds: "The Indian Press has a right to demand five straight answers to five plain questions. First do the anti-opium party desire that the loss of revenue should be borne by the Indian tax-payer or do they accept the view of more than one member of the Government that the loss should be made good by the English tax-payer. Second, do they desire that the loss from throwing the opium lands out of cultivation or into the cultivation of less profitable crops, the other losses incident to the destruction of an old established staple industry of India shall be borne by the Indian peasantry and native employes, or would they give compensation at the cost of the English taxpayer. Third, do they desire that opium production should be left to the ordinary law of supply and demand, like vine growing in France, or hop growing in England? Fourth, or do they desire absolute prohibition of cultivation and manufacture both in British districts and in the feudatory States, and if so with what compensation to the latter? Fifth or do they desire that the Indian Government should merely withdraw from the direct manufacture of opium, leaving its cultivation and manufacture to private enterprise, and dealing with it as an ordinary branch of excise—in short restricting itself to the modified control and supervision which it exercises over the production and sale of spirituous liquors?"

Very truly the writer says that a plain answer to these questions will enable the public to form a correct view of the justice and soundness of Sir Joseph Pease's proposals than all the anti-opinion breakfasts with their well—meaning but one-sided and wholly unconvincing oratory during the twelve months of the year.

But we hardly need wait for the answer of Sir Joseph and his followers to the first three of these questions. They know too well that any such proposals will be received with an unmixed contempt on the part of the English tax-payer. What he will say will be "if the trade is a useful one why abolish it? If it is not, am I to pay compensation to the conductors of an injurious one?" In fact his attitude will be exactly what it is upon the liquor question in his own country, which is simply this that he is not going to pay compensation under any circumstances.

THE MANIPUR DEATH SENTENCES.

We have received the news of the intention to carry out the death sentences upon the Senapati and the Tongal General and of the sentences of transportation for life and forfeiture of property to be inflicted upon the Regent and his brother Angas Sena. It would be useless to deny that this decision will be accepted in England as one marked by as much lenity as could be expected under the circumstances. The distinction made seems to meet the various degrees of guilt which marked the conduct of the various actors in the tragedy according to the accounts which from time to time have appeared in England. The dilemma has been felt to be a cruel one aware as we are that our actions in Manipur put us entirely in the wrong. But to expect of the Eng-

FROM THE "GAZETTE DES HOPITAUX," Paris. We have already tried, Chassaing's Bidigestive Syrup, Pills and Wine on a great number of patients, and are pleased to be able to state that these medicaments proved most efficacious. After a few days' consumption of the drug, a regular digestion and perfect assimilation was obtained. These new medicines will therefore most certainly render great services in therapeutics; and it is on these grounds that we recommend them to our professional brethren: "Dr. Salmon."

lish people that this circumstance would be admitted as an excuse for acts of desperation, which resulted in the murder of English officials, would be to assume a chivalry of feeling which it must be admitted does not exist. Only one man in England—Mr. Gladstone—had he been at the head of affairs would have had the courage, in a case like this, to act as he did in the case of the Boars and the Transval annexation, and to refrain from taking a vengeance which not to take would seem a weakness.

He dared to do so on the occasion I have mentioned, and the result was that the majority of Englishmen thought the honour of their country had been compromised, and Mr. Gladstone himself became the mark of unrestrained odium and abuse. Those who approve of the carrying out of the death sentences declare that there cannot be a doubt of the justice of such a course. That I believe is not the strongest feeling actuating them in their approval. There is a far stronger one by which they are influenced, and it is the natural one that a strong man will not allow himself to be cheated of the luxury of retaliating upon those who have injured him even though he himself has been the agressor. That is not an in tinct of justice, but the instinct of the soldier or adventurer, who strikes and intends to kill or wound without troubling himself as to his moral attitude in the matter. In the arguments of the supporters of the executions, a real examination of the justice of the case is not made: it would be too uncertain in its result and would probably end in "sicklying o'er, with the pale cast of thought, the enterprise of great pith and moment" which it is felt desirable to undertake —not in the interests of justice but of expediency—another and quite different principle, but the real one. Thus we find these writers balancing in their minds considerations of policy, and the danger to English prestige of a remission of the sentences, with the danger of shocking Indian opinion by carrying them out. This is not justice but it has the merit of not being hypocrisy. From one of the ablest newspapers in Great Britain—the "Scotchman," I take some sentences which show plainly how the conclusion is arrived at by most people in favour of the executions. This paper says: 'There may be a difference of opinion as to the policy of hanging a Royal Prince of a feudatory State. It must be remembered that a century of British Rule in India has not effaced from the minds of even those under its direct sway the ancient reverence for royalty. In the Native States, the feeling is, of course, stronger and more genuine. It is possible that the execution of the Manipur Senapati may give a shock to this feeling. But the Viceroy had to consider on the other hand, what might be the effect of mitigating the sentences of the Chief murderers. The Government of India has its representatives in every Native State. There is a vast number of such States in India and in any of them circumstances might any day arise to bring the Political Agent into collision with the princely house. Such an event is indeed so rare as to make the Manipur tragedy stand out as an incident as singular as it was deplorable. But the rarity of the crime makes it none the less necessary to show all India that the British Government will not allow the blood of its representatives to be cruelly shed without executing stern justice on the murderers. The necessity may be grievous, but looking merely at the question of expediency, we believe the effect of the Viceroy's decision will on the whole, be more salutary than if he had spared the lives of all the murderers." Without entering more fully upon this question of expediency, it will be seen that this argument as applied to Manipur is quite fallacious. The writer assumes that the political resident had been slain at the Court to which he was accredited in the discharge of his ordinary duties. I need not say how different the whole transaction really was, and that in point of fact it was not the resident as such that was slain, but an unfortunate officer whose evil fortune had made him an unwilling participator in a brutal *coup de main* instituted by his Government. It is absurd to say that his fate would render insecure other political residents throughout India in the discharge of their ordinary and proper duties.

THE CONGRESS OF HYGIENE.

This important Congress of the savants of the East and the West is now being held here under circumstances which promise the greatest success. A vast variety of topics relating to the health of nations and their moral and physical progress are being discussed, and the fact is being brought to the minds of all, how much the happiness of mankind depends upon the knowledge and observance of natural laws and the immense importance of seeing clearly how much or how little can be done by ourselves in controlling those laws for our own benefit and that of our descendants.

Dr. Cunningham c. s, I., and Inspector-General Lawson read papers on epedimic diseases, in which of course cholera came in for special treatment as the type of such diseases. The most important points demonstrated were that the chief factor of cholera being carried by atmospheric currents cannot be excluded from any country, and that it is not the body of persons attacked that produces it in others, but their clothing and other means whereby the emanations are distributed. All that can be done is by hygienic means to improve the health of the population, and to remove the conditions which favour the formation of foci of the disease. Placing ships under observation, removing their crews and passengers to suitable localities on shore until the disease ceases among them, are very proper precautions, and may prevent a small amount of the disease among the surrounding population, but can never prevent an epidemic, if the necessary factors be in progress. Inspector General Lawson said "Those who support the theory that man diffuses cholera, are, necessarily, required to show that persons under the disease must arrive in points where it has not yet appeared before it commences in these latter, and that the first attacks in the new locality have been in persons exposed to the imported cases; but there are now a good many instances of epidemics springing up in localities at a distance from where the disease was prevailing, and without any trace of importation, and where those first attacked had resided in the country for many months in succession without communication with any previous case."

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Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette— *September 9*, 1891.

GENERAL.—The Lieutenant-Governor is pleaded to accept the resignation tendered by Captain Maurice Power of his appointment as Honorary Pay-Master of the Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles.

Babu Sriram Ganguly, Officiating Sub-Deputy Collector, Ranaghat, Nuddea, is transferred temporarily to the Meherpore and Chuadanga Sub-Divisions in that District, with head-quarters at Mehorpore.

Mr. E. M. Konstam, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Jhenidah, Jessore, is vested with the powers of a Deputy Collector.

Moulvi Ahmad, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for one month and four days, under Article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the Ist October, 1891.

Babu Kally Prosunno Sircar, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Midnapore, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that District.

Mr. T. F. Carter, substantive *pro tempore* SubDeputy Collector, Behar, Patna, is transferred to the head-quaters station of that District.

Babu Behary Lall Mukerji, Sub-Deputy Collector, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the first grade of Sub-Deputy Collectors but seconded, while on deputation, as Special Deputy Collector.

Ecclesiastical.—The Rev. Balunkeswara Podhan, a Christian Missionary of the Baptist Mission at Pipl in Puri, is hereby granted a license, under Section 19 of Act XV of 1872, authorising him to grant certificatee of marriage between persons who are *Nativi Christians.*

The Rev. Balunkeswara Podhan is also appointed to be a Registrar of Births and Deaths under Act VI of 1886.

Registration.—Babu Chandi Churn Chowdhry who was, under orders of the 28th August, 1891, appointed on probation to be Rural Sub-Registrar of Palang, in the District of Furridpore, is confirmed in that appointment.

JUDICIAL.—Babu Benode Behari Sircar, Probationary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the second class.

The Lieutenant Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Babu Krishna Chunder Roy of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Raigunge Bench in the District of Dinagepore.

Babu Juggut Durlub Bysack, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhum, is vested with the powers of a Subordinate Judge.

Babu Durga Churn Sen, *substantive pro tempore* Munsiff of the first grade, Perozepore, Backergunge, is confirmed in that grade, vice Babu Ram Chunder Dhur, retired.

Babu Haro Sundar Chuckerbutty, substantive *pro tempore* Munsiff of the first grade, Nowgong, Rajshahye, is confirmed in that grade, vice Babu Prem Chand Pal, retired.

Babu Upendra Chunder Ghose, substantive *pro tempore* Munsiff of the first grade, Khulna, Jessore. is confirmed in that grade, vice Babu Rabi Chunder Ganguly, promoted.

Babu Sarat Chunder Mukerji, Munsiff, Karimgunge, Sylhet, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the first grade of Munsiffs, vice Babu Durga Churn Sen.

Babu Jogendra Chunder Maulik, Munsiff, Burrisal, Backergunge, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the first grade of Munsiffs, vice Babu Haro Sundar Chukerbutty.

Babu Benode Behari Mitter, Munsiff, Dantun, Midnapore, is promoted substantively *pro tempore*, to the first grade of Munsiffs, vice Babu Upendra Chunder Ghose.

Babu Mohendro Lall Gossami, substantive *pro tempore*, Munsiff of the second grade, Bhanga, Furridpore, is confirmed in that grade, vice Babu Durga Churn Sen.

Babu Rajnarain Chuckerbutty, substantive *pro tempore* munsiff of the second grade, Cutwa, Burdwn, is confirmed in that grade, *vice* Baboo Haro Sundar Chuckerbutty.

Babu Kali Pado Mukerji, substantive *pro tempore* Munsiff of the second grade, Chupra, Sarun, is confirmed in that grade, *vice* Babu Upendra Chunder Ghose.

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Babu Kali Krishna Chowdhry, Munsiff Hughly, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the second grade of Munsifis, vice Bbau Mohendro Lall Gossami.

Babu Aghor Chunder Hazra, Munsiff, Kendrapara, Cuttack, is promoted substantively *pro tempore* to the second grade of Munsiffs, vice Babu Rajnarain Chuckerbtty.

Babu Apurva Krishna Sen Munsiff, Nilphamari, Rungpur is promoted substa ntively *pro tempore* to the second grade of Munsiffs, vice Babu Kali pado Mukerji.

The Leutenant Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Mr. F. B. Baker and Mr. H. T. Kerr of their appointments as Honorary Magistrates of the Nuxalbari Independent Bench in the District of Darjiling.

Mr. Henry Teviot Kerr is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Kurseong, in the District of Darjiling, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at Nuxalbari, in the District of Dariiling, and are vested with the powers of Magistrate of the third class—

Mr. George Ashwell Kneebone, Mr. Earnest George Gilliam, Mr. Owen Dowell Jhonson and Mr. George Edward Davys.

Grant of leave to Munsiffs.—Babu Benode Behary Mitter Munsiff of Dantun, in the District of Midnapore, is allowed leave for four months, under Articles 267 and 369 of the Civil Service Regulations., in extension of the leave granted to him on the 30th June, 1891.

Babu Durga Churn Sen, Munsiff of Perozepur, in the District of Backergunge, is allowed leave one week, under Article 306(b) of the Civil Tervice Regulations, in extension of the leave grantcd to him on the 18th August, 1891.

Babu Dandadhari Biswas, Munsiff of Cox's Bazar, in the District of Chittagong, is allowed leave for three mouths, viz, seventeen days under Article 309 of the Civil Service Regulations, and the remaining period under Article 306 (b) of the same Regulations, with effect from the 1st October, 1891.

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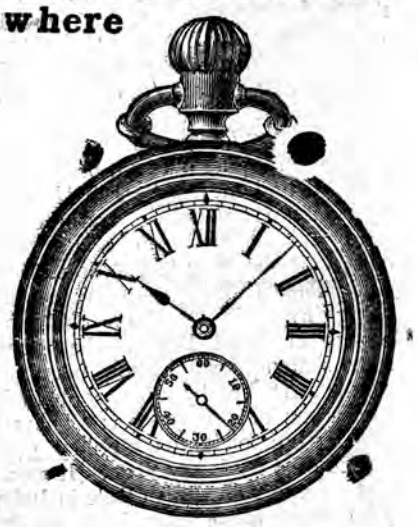

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